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# Shaft design

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# Learning Objectives

## Part 1:

- Introduction to shaft function, types & applications
- Considerations for proper shaft connections

## Part 2:

- Methods to evaluate shaft loading and to determine shaft diameter using ASME design code
- Design features to prevent fatigue
- Calculation of shaft deflection & critical speed

## Part 3:

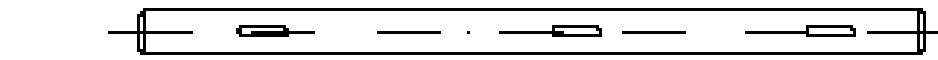
- Worked examples on shaft loading and shaft design calculations

Notes: Effective learning can be achieved in conjunction with Bearings lectures and contents from Statics & Dynamics (MMMME1028) and Mechanics of Solids (MMME2053) on Beam bending and deflection.

# Function & Types

- Function:
  - a **slender component** of circular cross-section that **rotates and transmits power from a driving device**
  - a means to provide **shaft-hub** and **shaft-shaft connections**

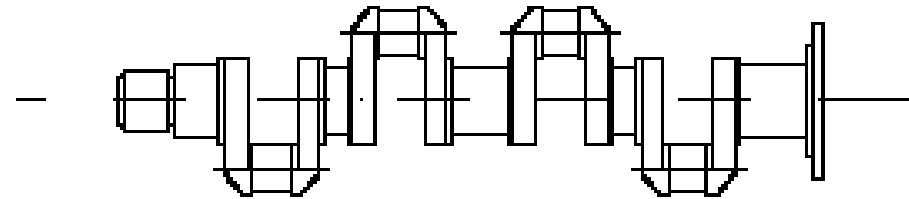
- Types:
  - Plain shaft
  - Stepped shaft
  - Crankshaft
  - Camshaft
  - Spline shaft



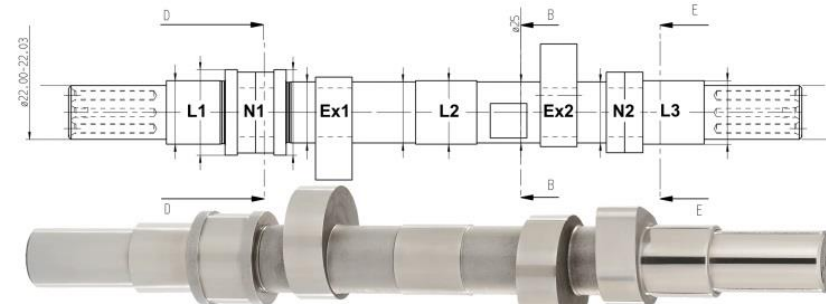
PLAIN TRANSMISSION



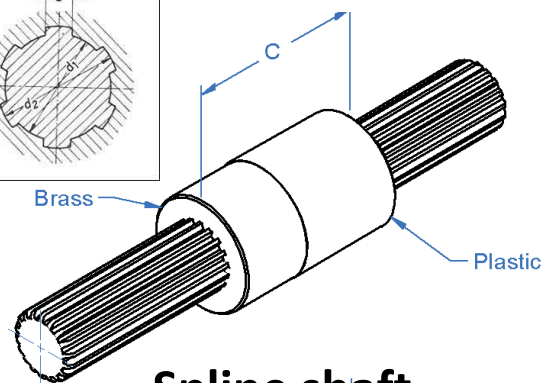
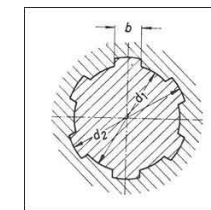
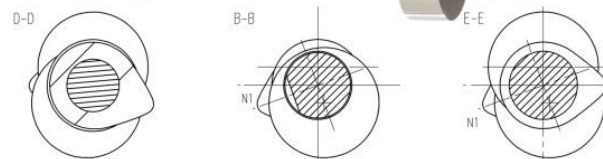
STEPPED SHAFT



CRANKSHAFT

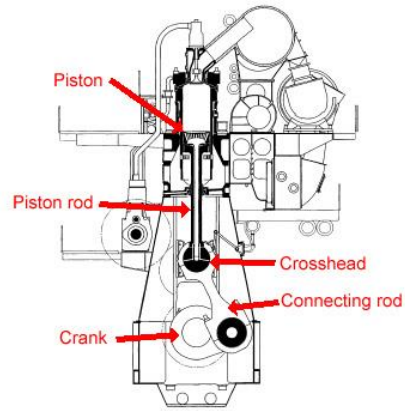
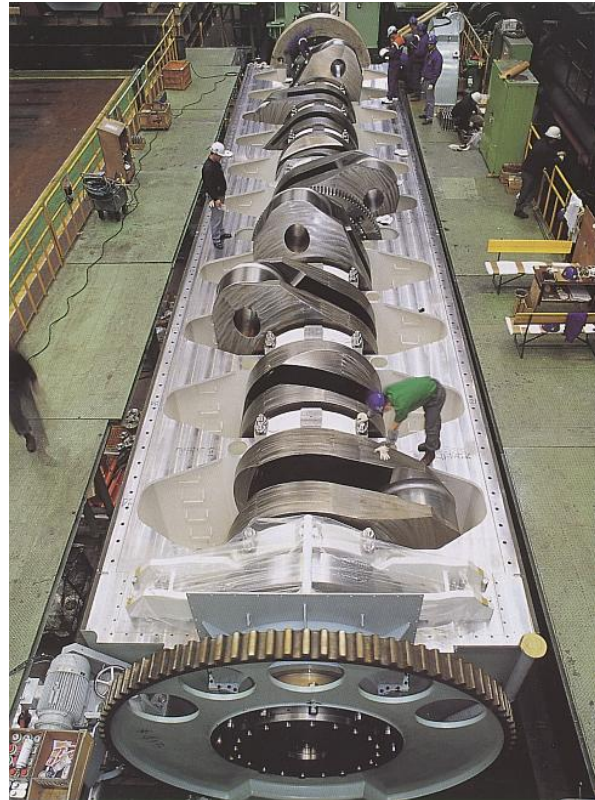


Camshaft



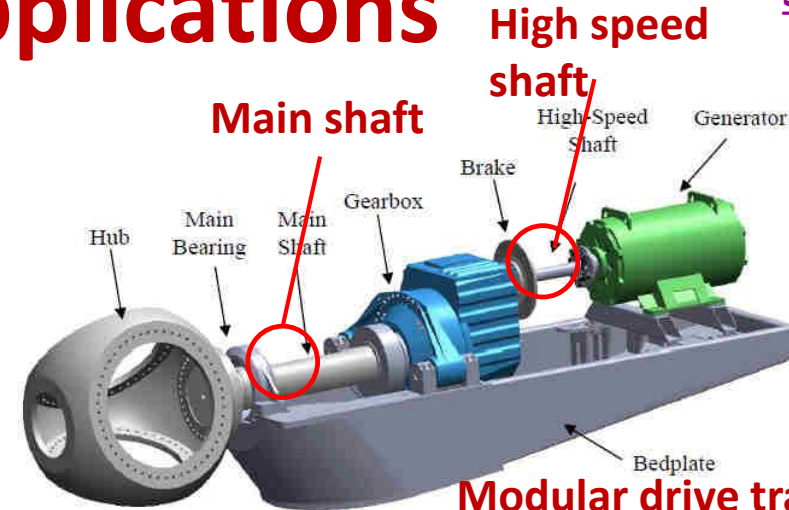
Spline shaft

# A few examples of shaft applications



14-cylinder 2-stroke diesel engine

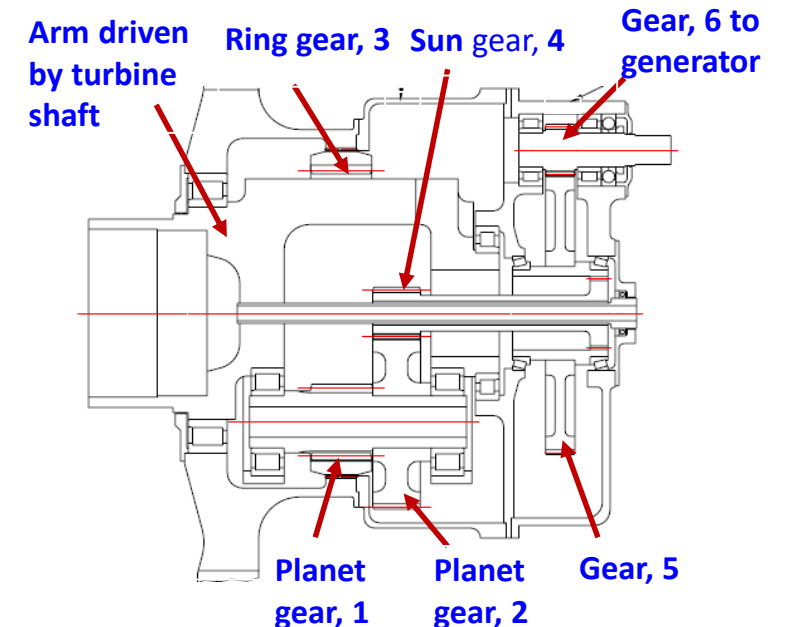
Crankshaft of the most powerful diesel engine for container ships ( $7.6 \times 10^6 \text{Nm}$  & 80MW, 26m & 300t)  
<http://www.amusingplanet.com/2013/03/the-largest-and-most-powerful-diesel.html>



**Modular drive train in Wind Turbine**  
<http://www.nrel.gov/wind>

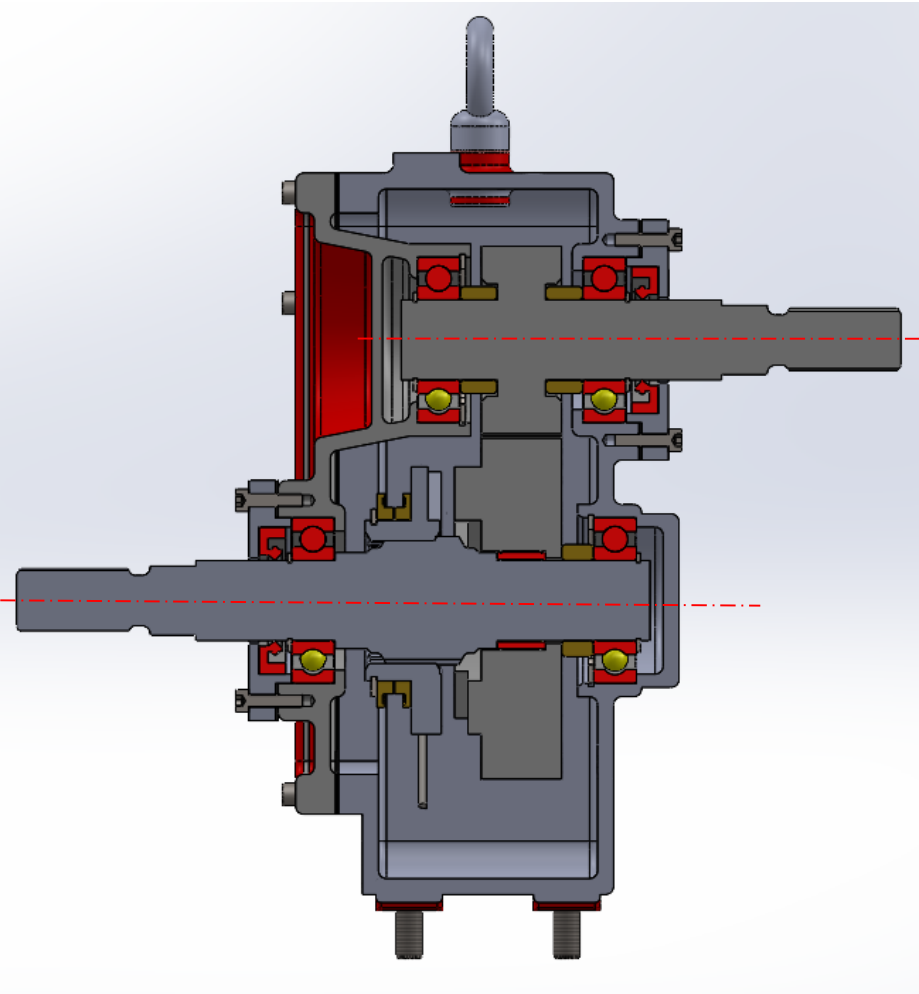


Vestas **V90-3MW** wind turbine  
<http://www.vestas.com/>

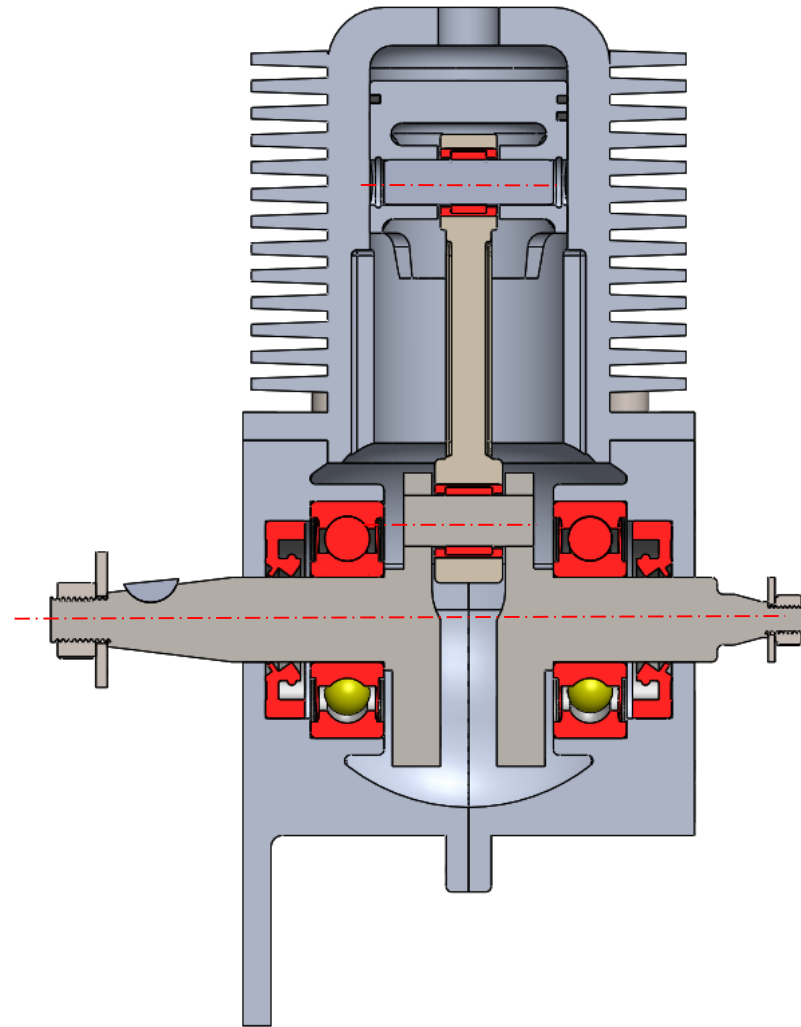


A **3MW** compound planetary helical gearbox,

# A few more examples of shaft applications



Design of a Marine Gearbox

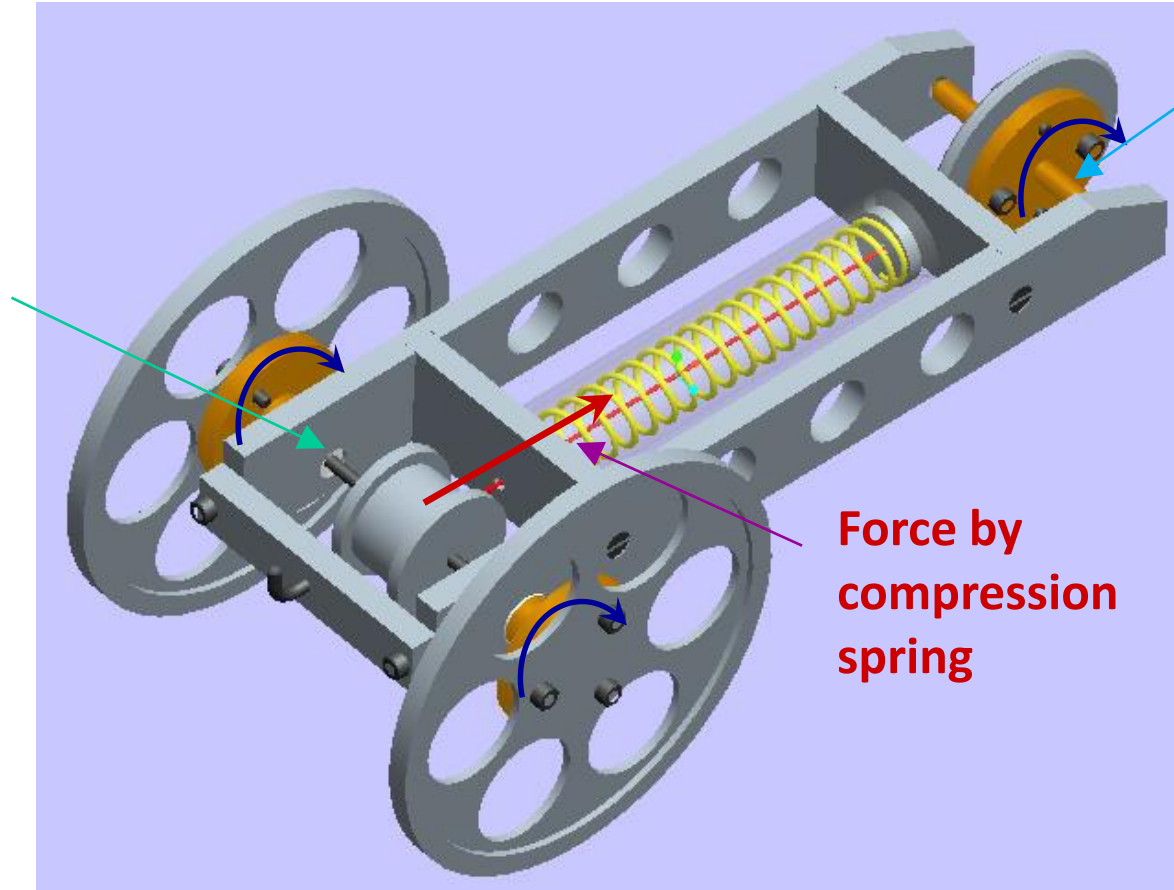


Design of a Two-Stroke Engine

# Any more examples of shafts?

## Rear axle (shaft) to

- apply torque for forward motion
- mount drum, bearings & wheels
- support chassis



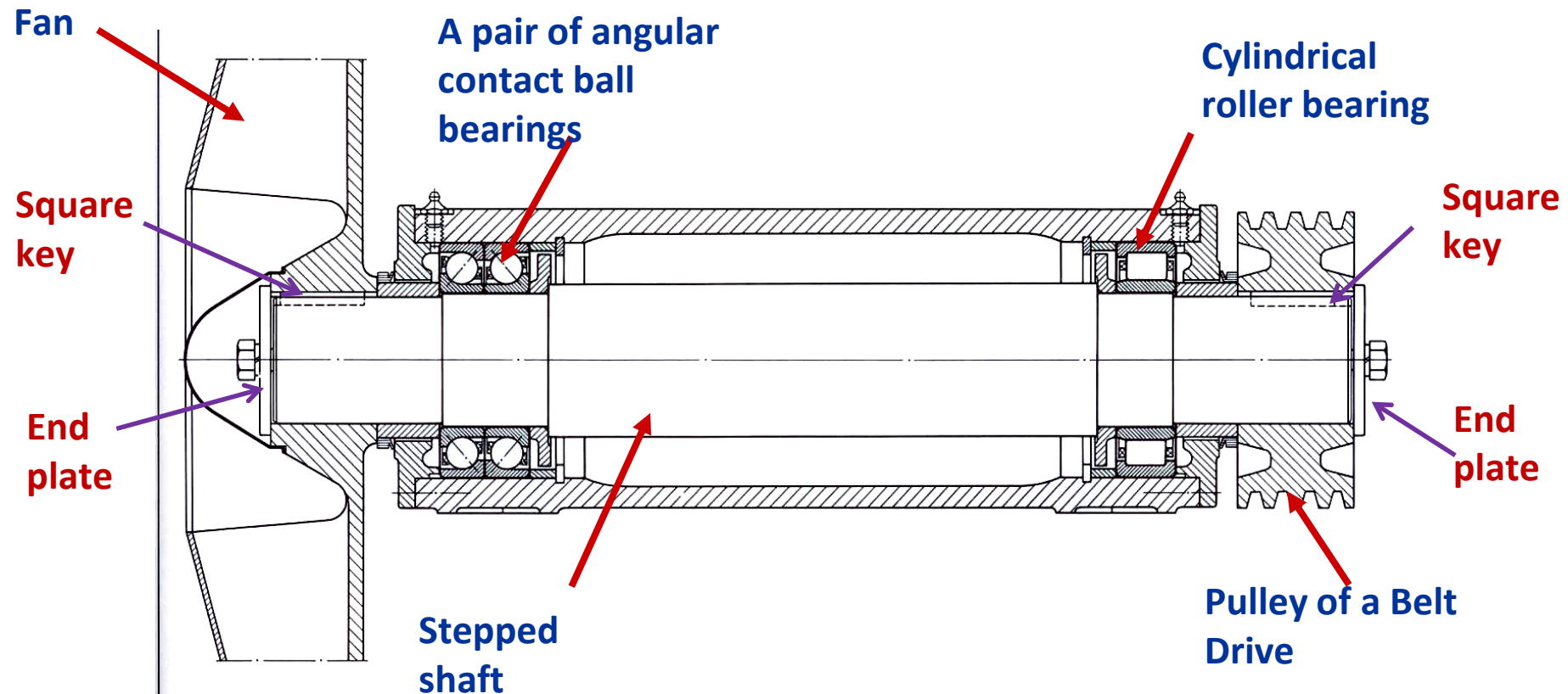
## Front axle (shaft) to

- mount front wheel
- support chassis

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Group design & make project: Spring Powered Cart**

# Shaft design considerations

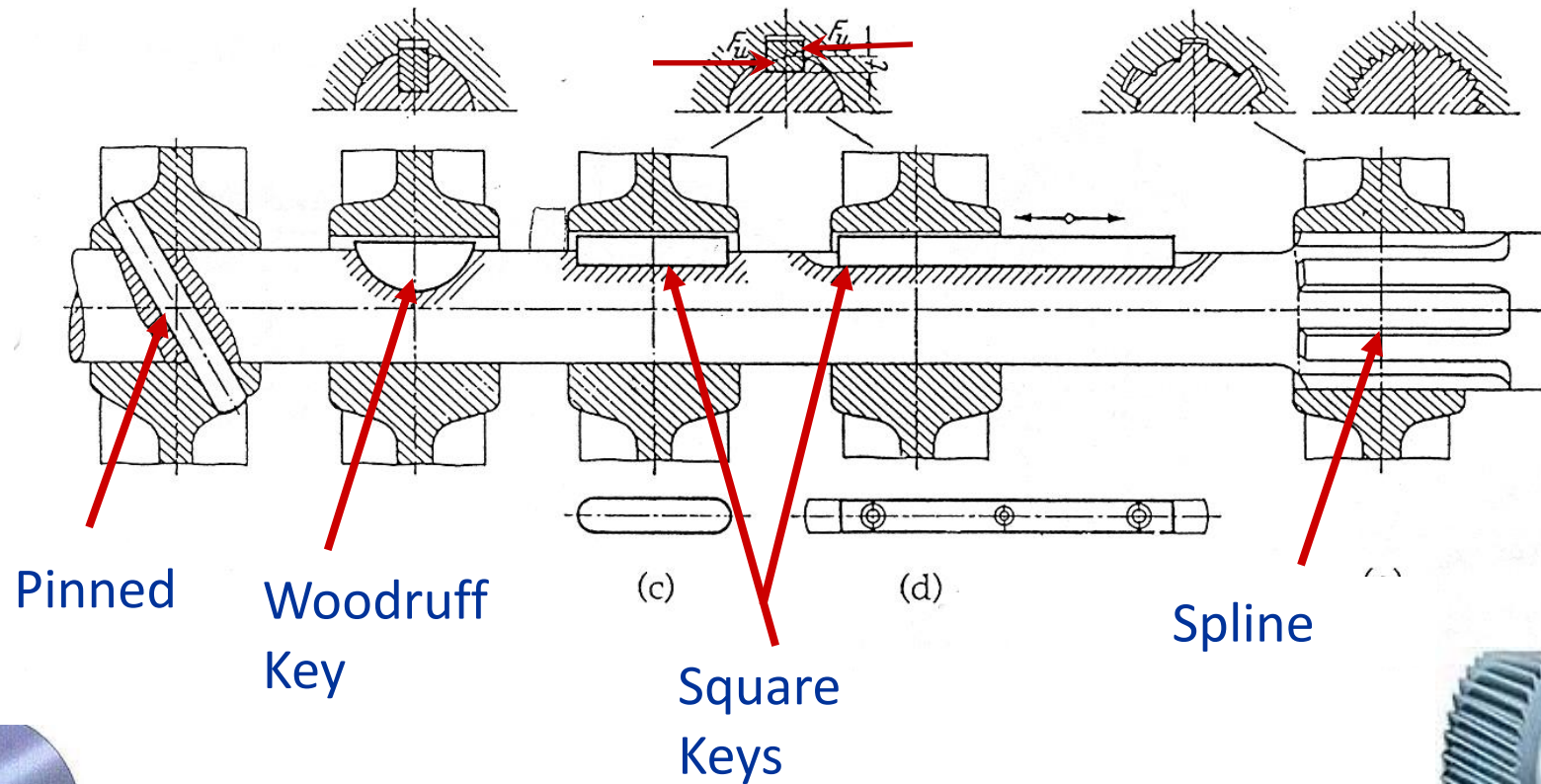
- Function & loading conditions
- Size & connection of components
- Material selection & treatments
- Deflection & rigidity
- Stress & strength
- Critical speed
- Manufacturing constraints
- Other design features



A fan supported by two bearings, SKF

# Shaft-hub connections

- Achieved by different types of keys and keyways and other means



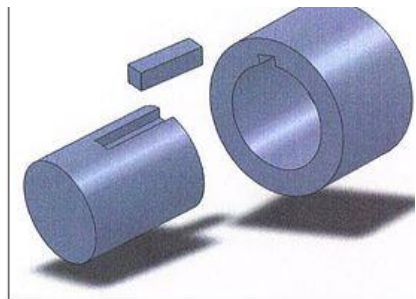
Pinned

Woodruff  
Key

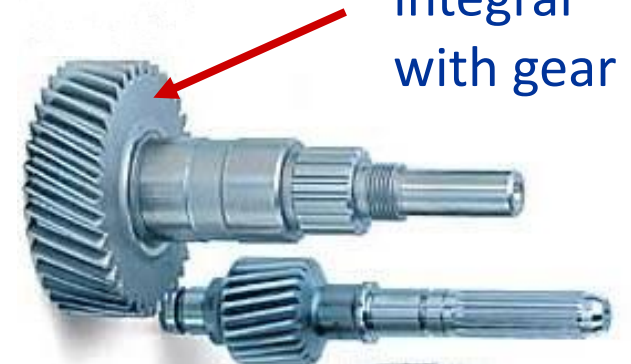
(c) (d)  
Square  
Keys

Spline

Shaft  
integral  
with gear

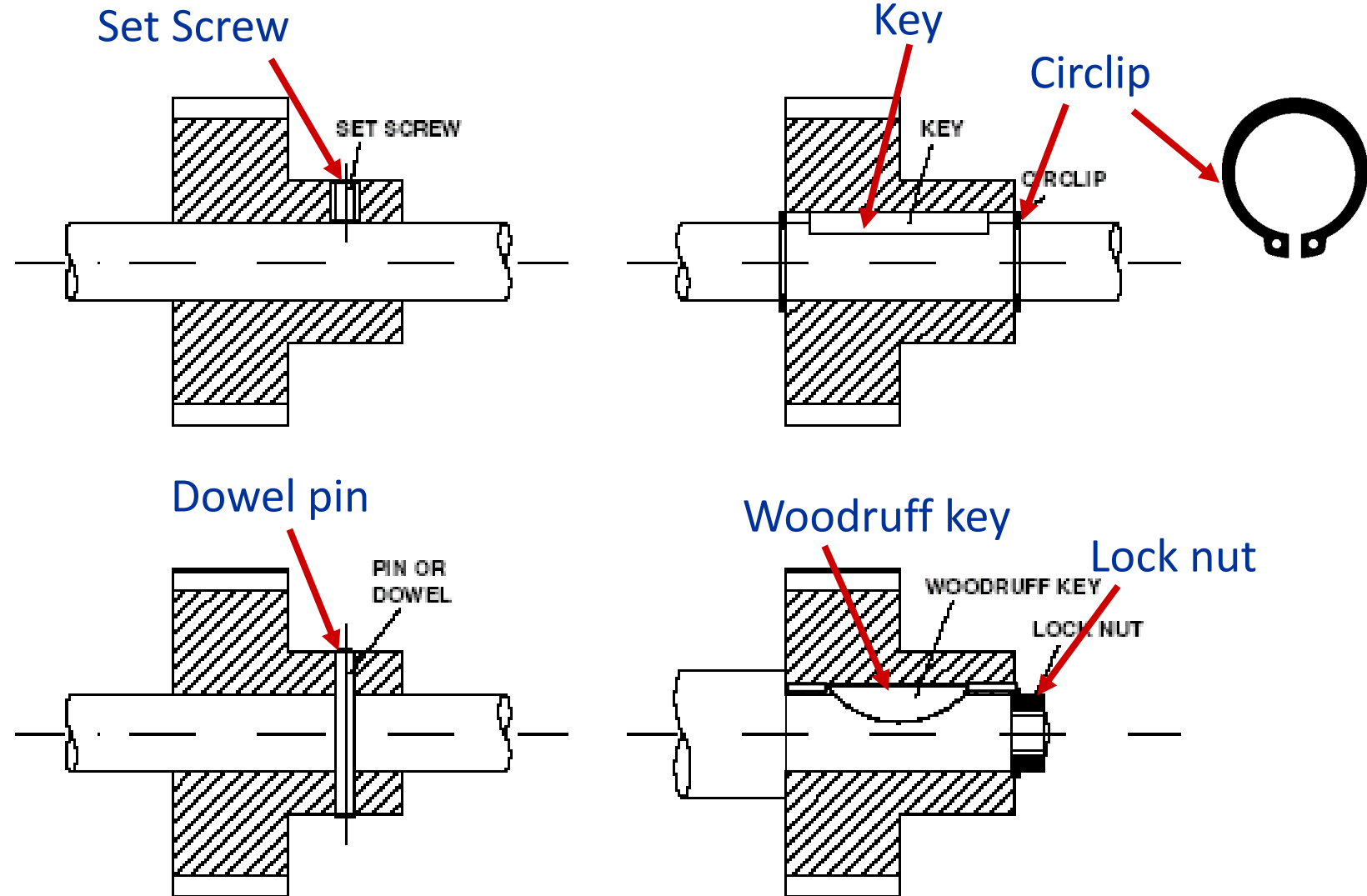


**BS 4235-1:1972 (confirmed 2007)** Specification for metric keys and keyways. Parallel and taper keys





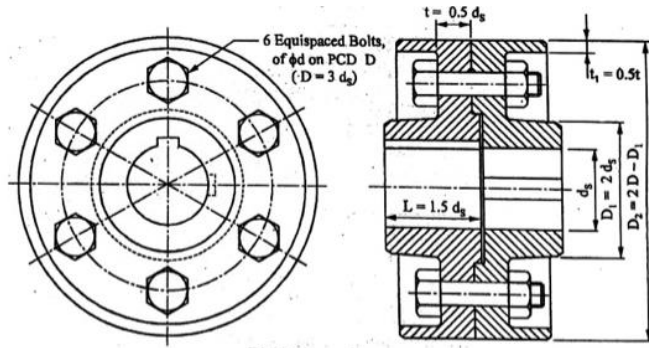
# Shaft-hub connections



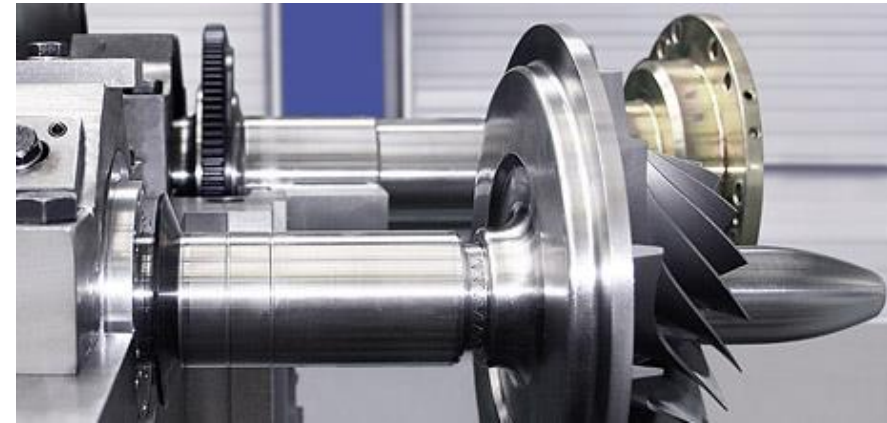
# Shaft-shaft connections

(as covered from MMME1024)

- Achieved by the use of rigid or flexible couplings



Rigid flange coupling



Hirth coupling



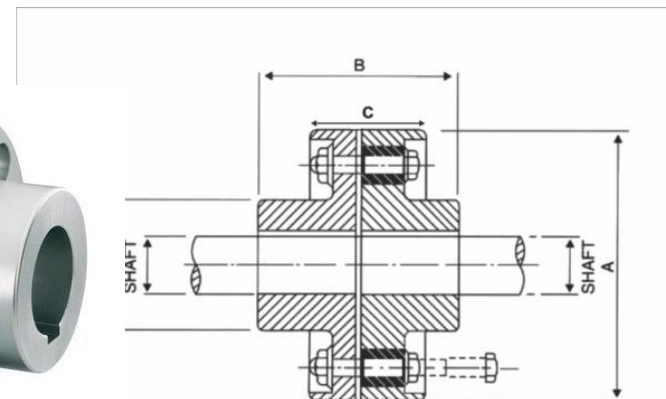
Clamp or split-muff coupling



Oldham coupling



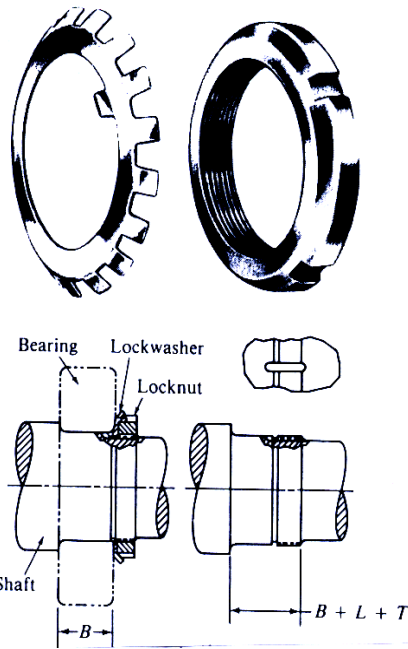
Bushed pin coupling



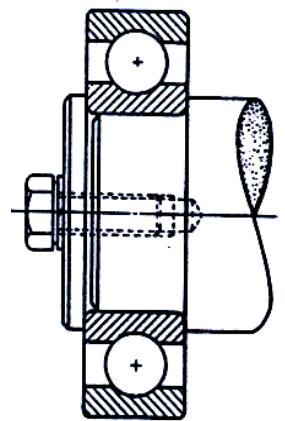
Gear coupling

# Location of bearing on shaft

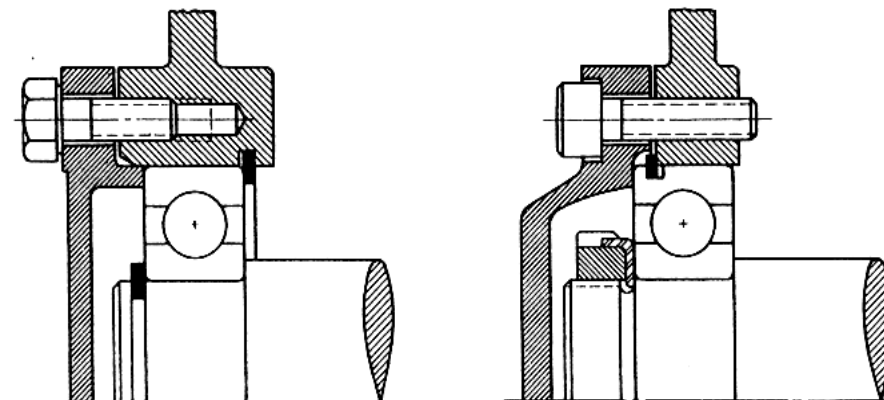
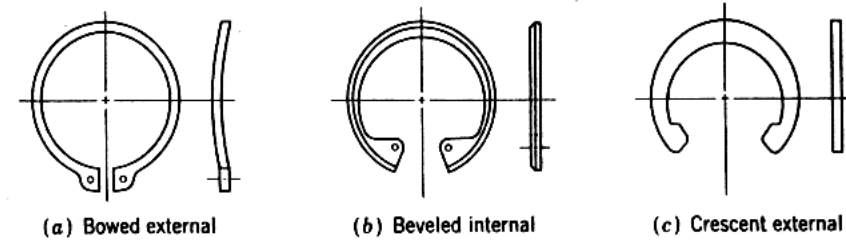
## Means of locating outer/inner rings of bearings



Lock nut & lock washer



End plates



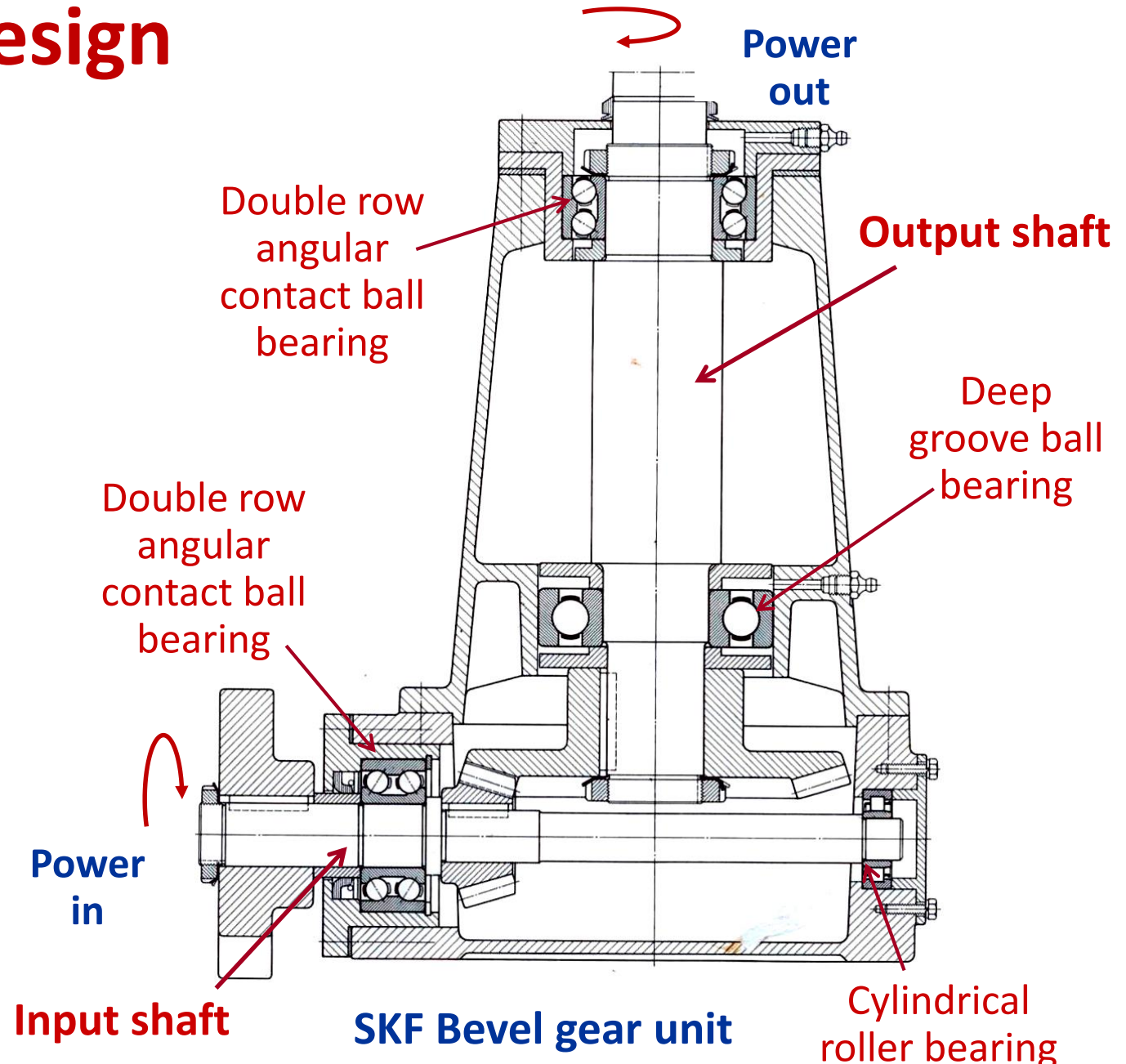
End cap, circlip & lock nut

# An example of shaft-hub & shaft-shaft connection in design

- A **shaft** is normally supported, e.g. by rolling element **bearings** of various types
- At the same time, it is the **shaft** to provide the space for **bearing and gear assembly, etc**



Bevel gears



Input shaft

SKF Bevel gear unit

Cylindrical roller bearing

# Location of bearing on shaft

Rotating ring: interference fit

Stationary ring: push (clearance) fit or transition fit

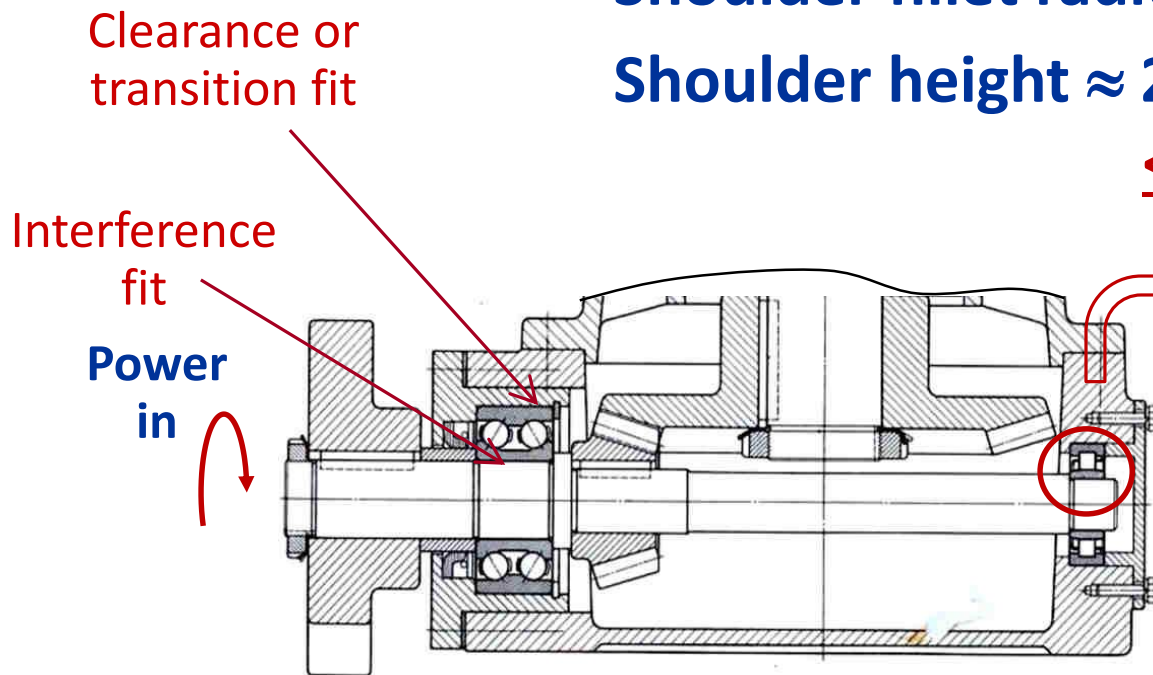
Axial location:

- Axial location of both rings against abutment faces

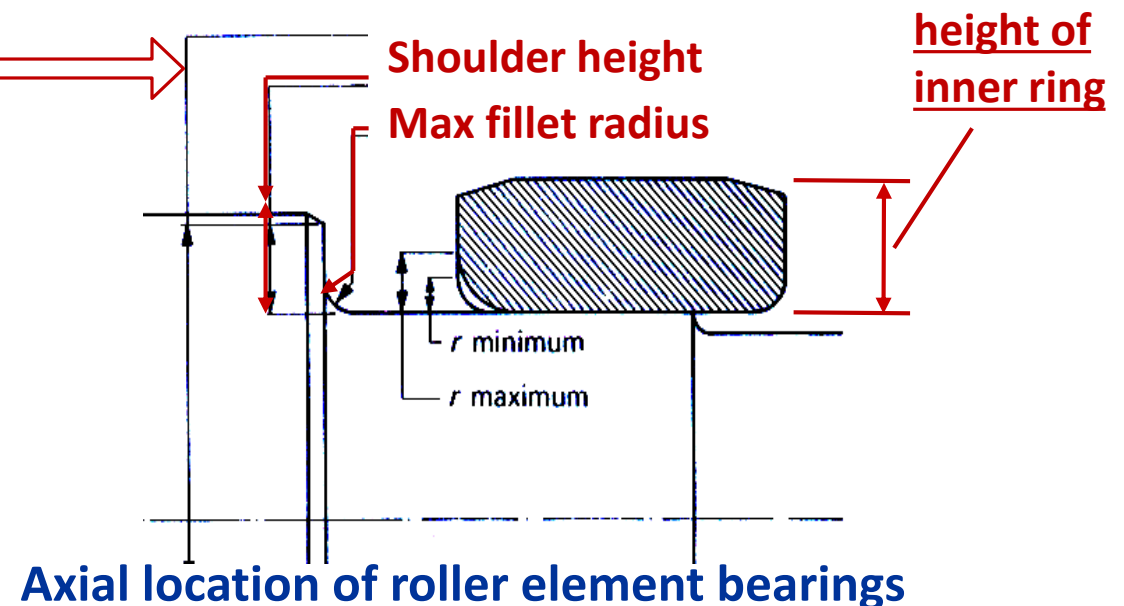
Shoulder fillet radius  $\leq$  corner radius of bearing

Shoulder height  $\approx 2 \sim 2.5$  corner radius of bearing

$\leq$  height of inner ring



A partial view of a SKF bevel gearbox

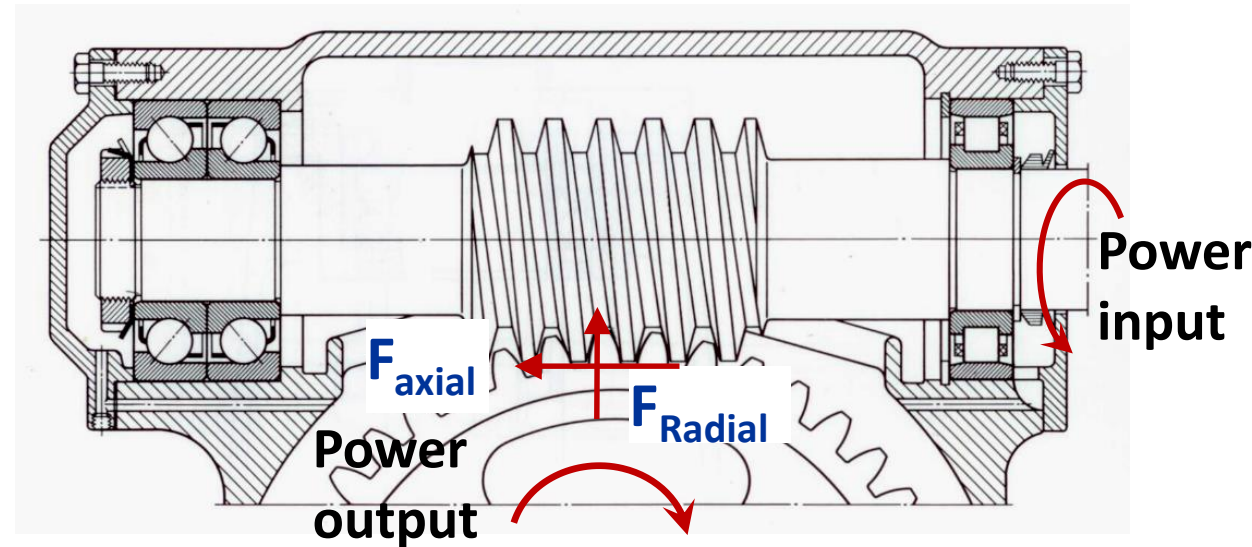




# A quiz: Input shaft of a worm gearbox

Which of following statements or design features are **incorrect**?

- A. This input worm is made of a **stepped shaft** to provide bearing location in using **lock nut and circlips**.
- B. A **cylindrical roller bearing** on the right and a pair of **angular contact ball bearing** on the left are used to support the input shaft.
- C. A **Clearance fit** should be used for **inner ring** of cylindrical roller bearing.
- D. The **axial force ( $F_{axial}$ )** at the meshing point is taken by the **cylindrical roller bearing**.



Statements **C** and **D** are **incorrect** because

**C.** An **interference fit** should be used

**D.** The **axial force ( $F_{axial}$ )** is taken by the **pair of angular contact ball bearings**

**0%0%0%0%**



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# Shaft design

## End of Part 1



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# Shaft design

## Part 2



# Shaft Design

## Design procedure

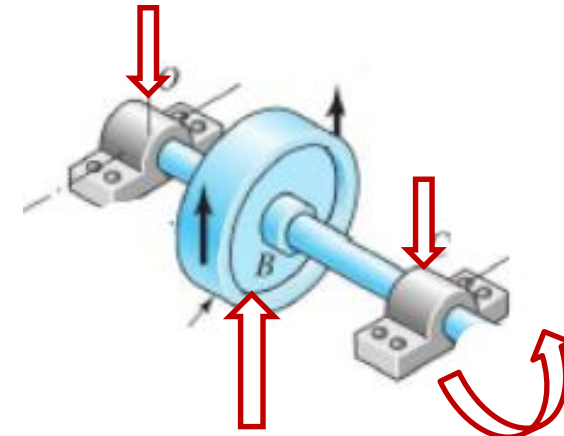
1. Determine torque to be transmitted
2. Selection & position of bearings
3. Determine shaft loadings
4. Determine shaft speed

Iterative Process!

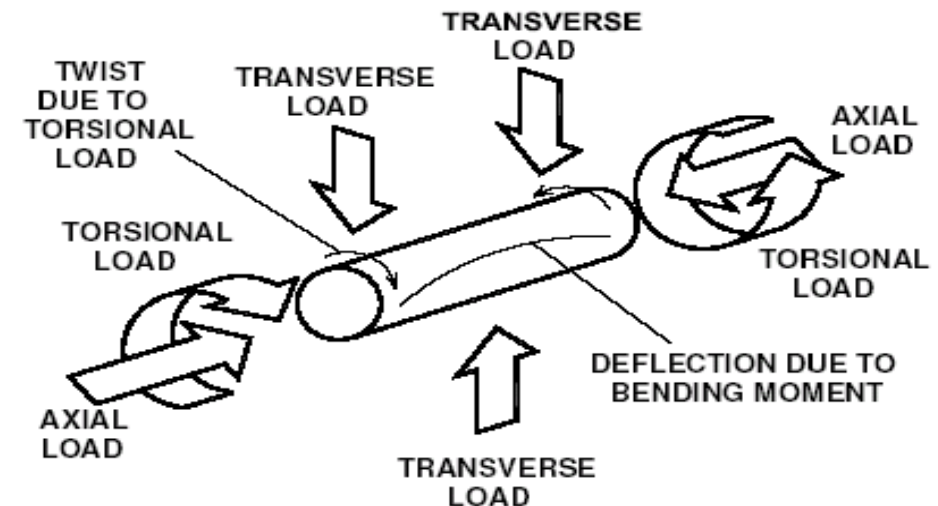
- 
5. Determine shaft diameter – ASME Design Code
  6. Design suitable design features
  7. Apply Macaulay's method to determine shaft deflections
  8. Apply Rayleigh-Ritz Equation to calculate **critical speed**

# Shaft Loading

- **Axial stresses:**
  - due to self-weight in vertical shafts;
  - due to axial restraint at bearings and associated axial loads
- **Bending stresses:**
  - due to **bending moment in belt drives, gear forces, mounted component weights** (e.g. gear, flywheel)
  - dynamic forces which can lead to fatigue and resonance
- **Shear stresses:**
  - due to **torque load**/ direct shear



A pulley shaft sub-assembly



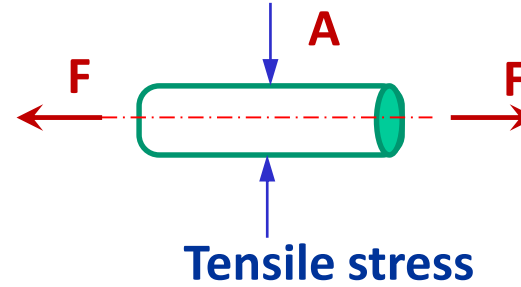
A general shaft loading case

# Common types of loading and stresses

- Types of loading & stress

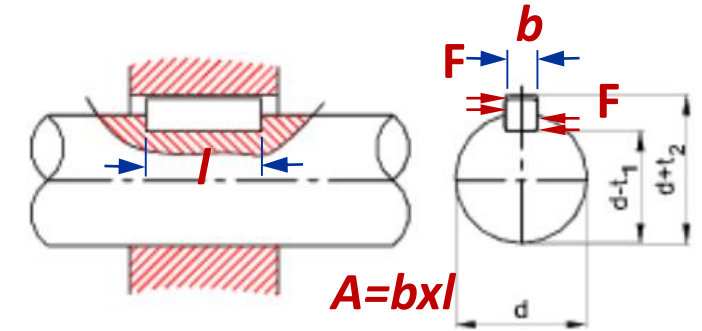
- Tensile load

$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A}$$



- Direct shear

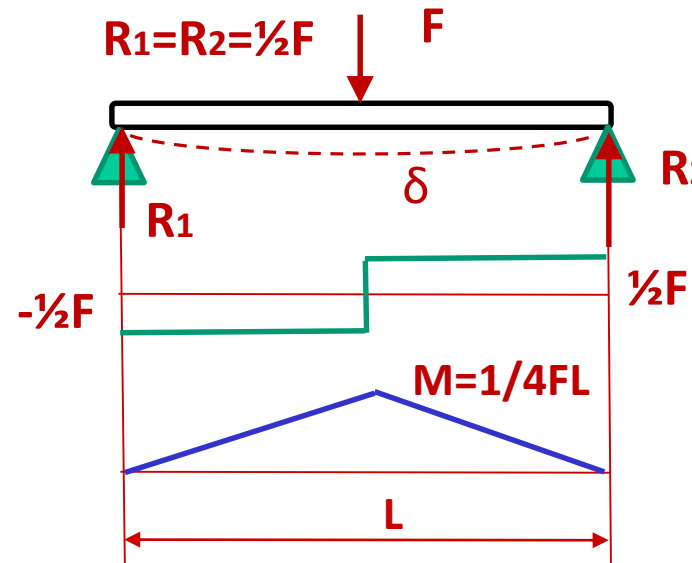
$$\tau = \frac{F}{A}$$



Direct shear stress

- Bending

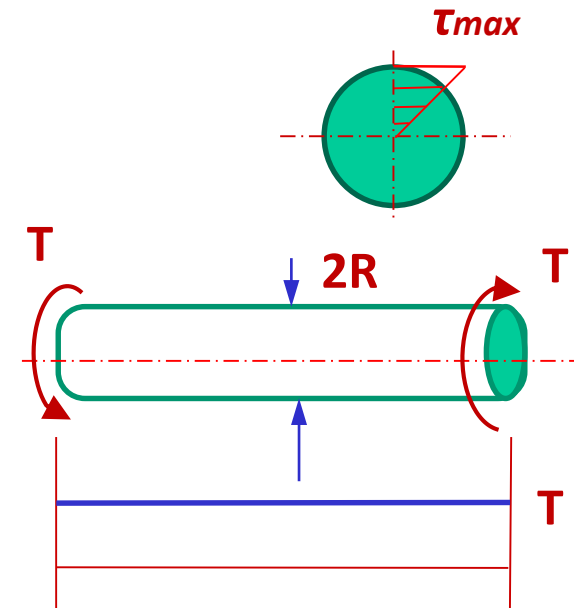
$$\sigma = \frac{My}{I}$$



Bending moment & shear force

- Torsion

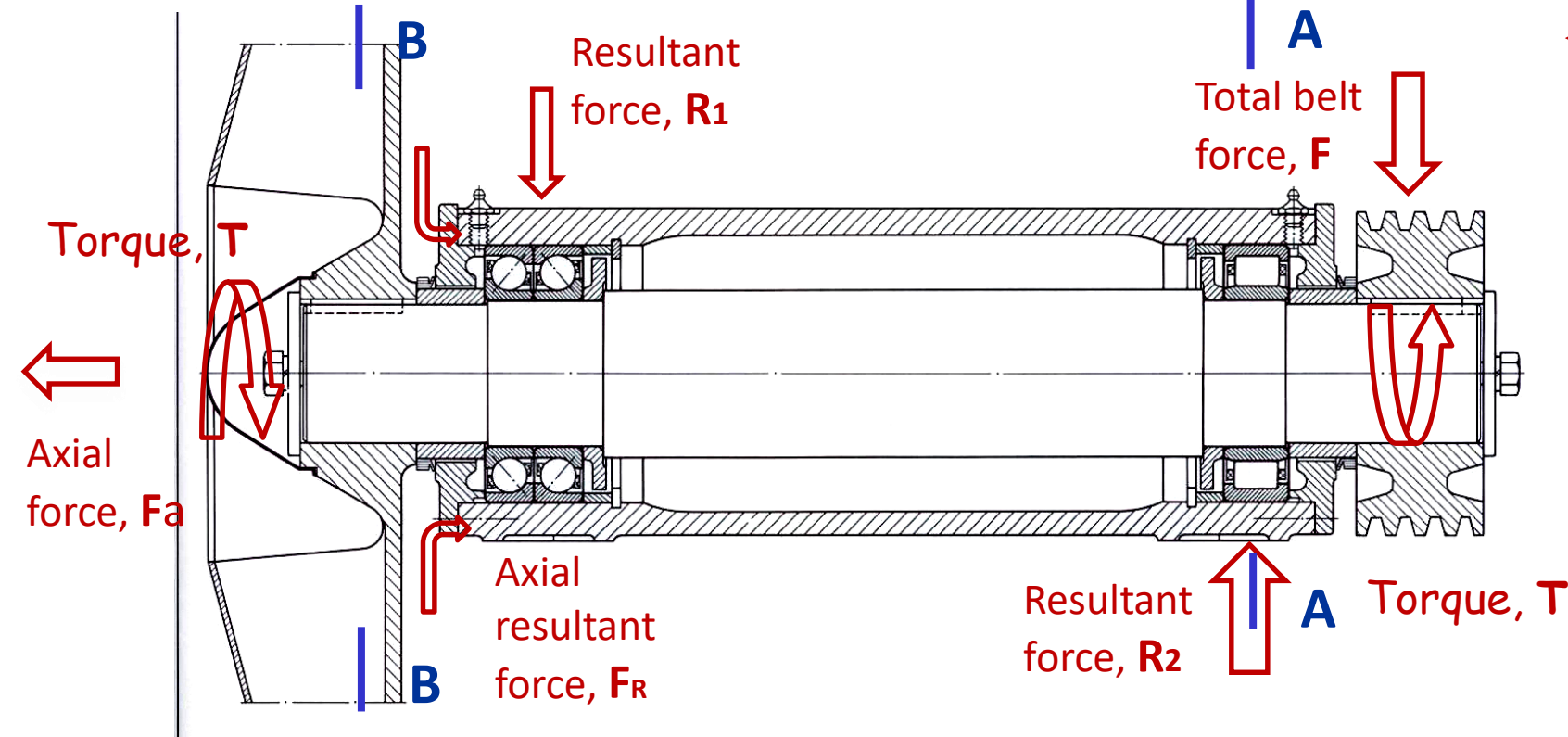
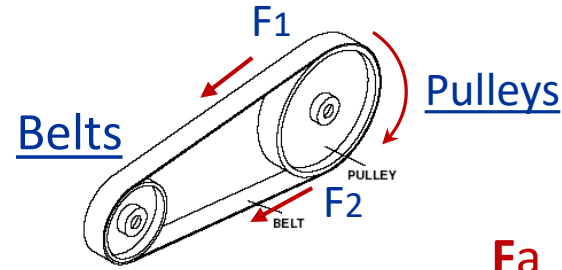
$$\tau = \frac{TR}{J}$$



Shear due to torsion

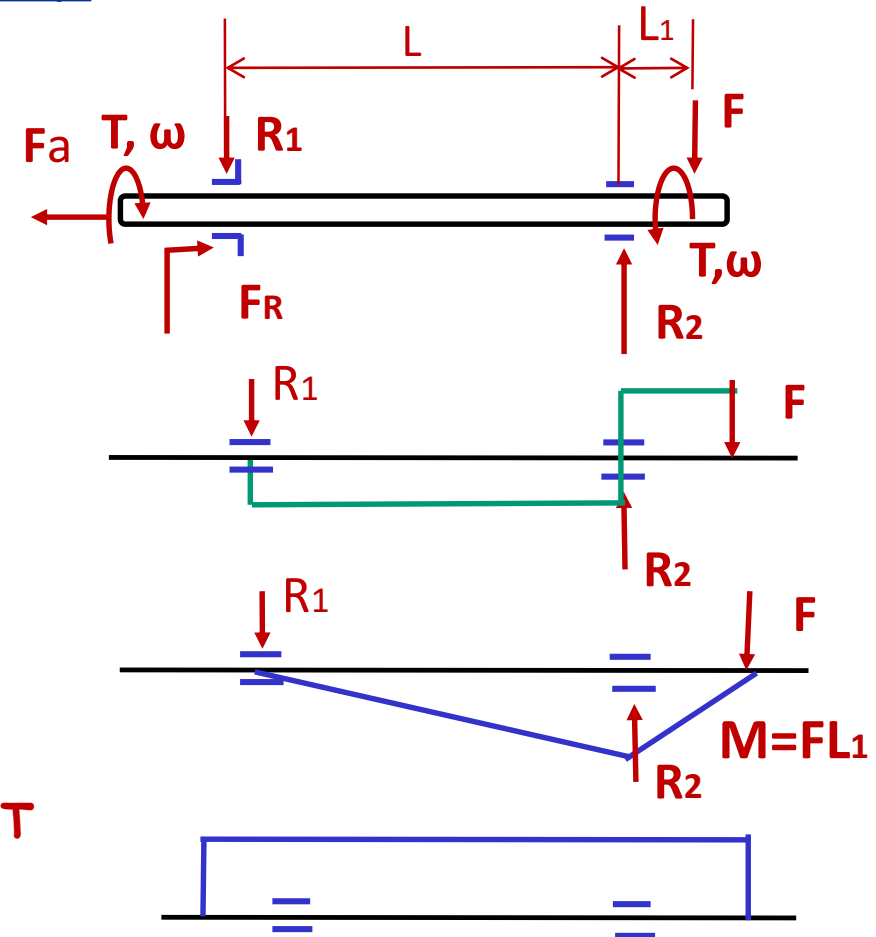
# An example of shaft loading

- Concept of critical sections



Sections A – A and B-B are critical sections

A SKF fan sub-assembly



Beam bending shear force, moment and torque diagrams (MMME1028)

# Shaft diameter

Use the **ASME design code** to calculate shaft diameter

Minimum diameter of shaft:  $d_{min}$  (m)

**Note:** **ASME** (American Society of Mechanical Engineers)

Reserve or safety factor  
(often use 2)

$$d = \left[ \frac{32n_s}{\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{M}{\sigma_e}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}\left(\frac{T}{\sigma_y}\right)^2} \right]^{1/3}$$

Max torque on shaft (**Nm**)

Yield strength of shaft material (**Pa**)


Max bending moment on shaft (**Nm**)

Endurance limit stress (**Pa**)

**Note:** be careful about the units in calculation

# A guide for reserve or safety factor

**Reserve (or safety) factor** is a simple and robust approach to accommodate **uncertainties** in engineering design and evaluation.

Recommended reserve factor ( $n_s$ )	Operational and environmental conditions as well as use of materials	Uncertainty of material and working conditions
<b>1.25 ~ 1.5</b>	Reliable materials under controlled conditions subjected to loads and stresses known with certainty	
<b>1.5 ~ 2</b>	Well-known materials under reasonably constant environmental conditions subjected to known loads and stresses	
<b>2 ~ 2.5</b>	Average materials subjected to known loads and stresses	
<b>2.5 ~ 3.0</b>	Less well-known materials under average conditions of load, stress, and environment	
<b>3 ~ 3.4</b>	Untried materials under average conditions of load, stress, and environment or well-known materials under uncertain conditions of load, stress, and environment	

# Shaft diameter

## How is the ASME design code equation derived?

- Bending moment creates alternating tensile/compressive stresses ( $\sigma_a$ )

$$\sigma = \frac{My}{I} \quad I = \frac{\pi d^4}{64} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sigma_a = \frac{32M}{\pi d^3}$$

- Torque normally generates constant shear stress ( $\tau_m$ )

$$\tau = \frac{TR}{J} \quad J = \frac{\pi d^4}{32} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \tau_m = \frac{16T}{\pi d^3}$$

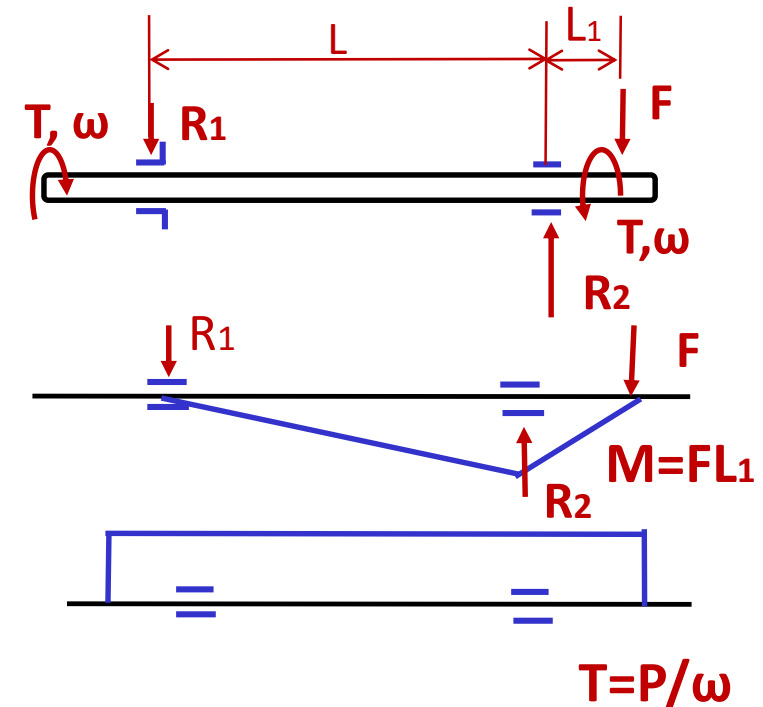
- von Mises stress in plane stress condition

$$\sigma_{vm} = (\sigma^2 + 3\tau^2)^{1/2}$$

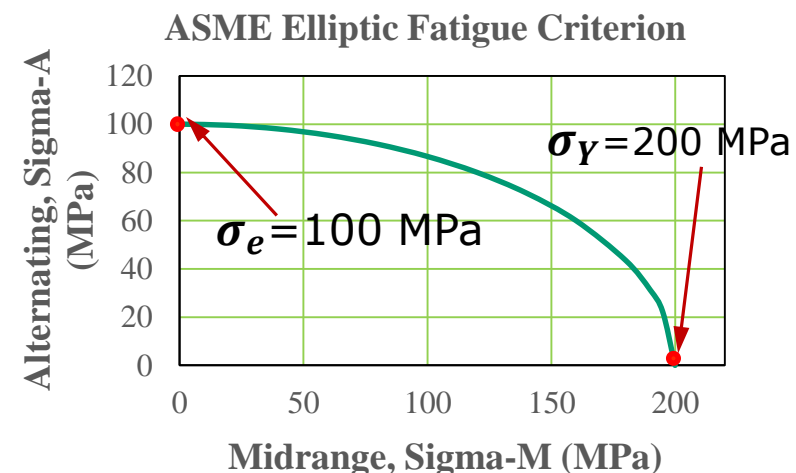
- ASME Fatigue Failure Criterion

$$\left(\frac{n_s \sigma_a}{\sigma_e}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n_s \sigma_m}{\sigma_Y}\right)^2 = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad d = \left[ \frac{32n_s}{\pi} \sqrt{\left(\frac{M}{\sigma_e}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{T}{\sigma_Y}\right)^2} \right]^{1/3}$$

**Note:** von Mises alternating ( $\sigma_a$ ) and midrange ( $\sigma_m$ ) stresses



Use SKF fan assembly as example



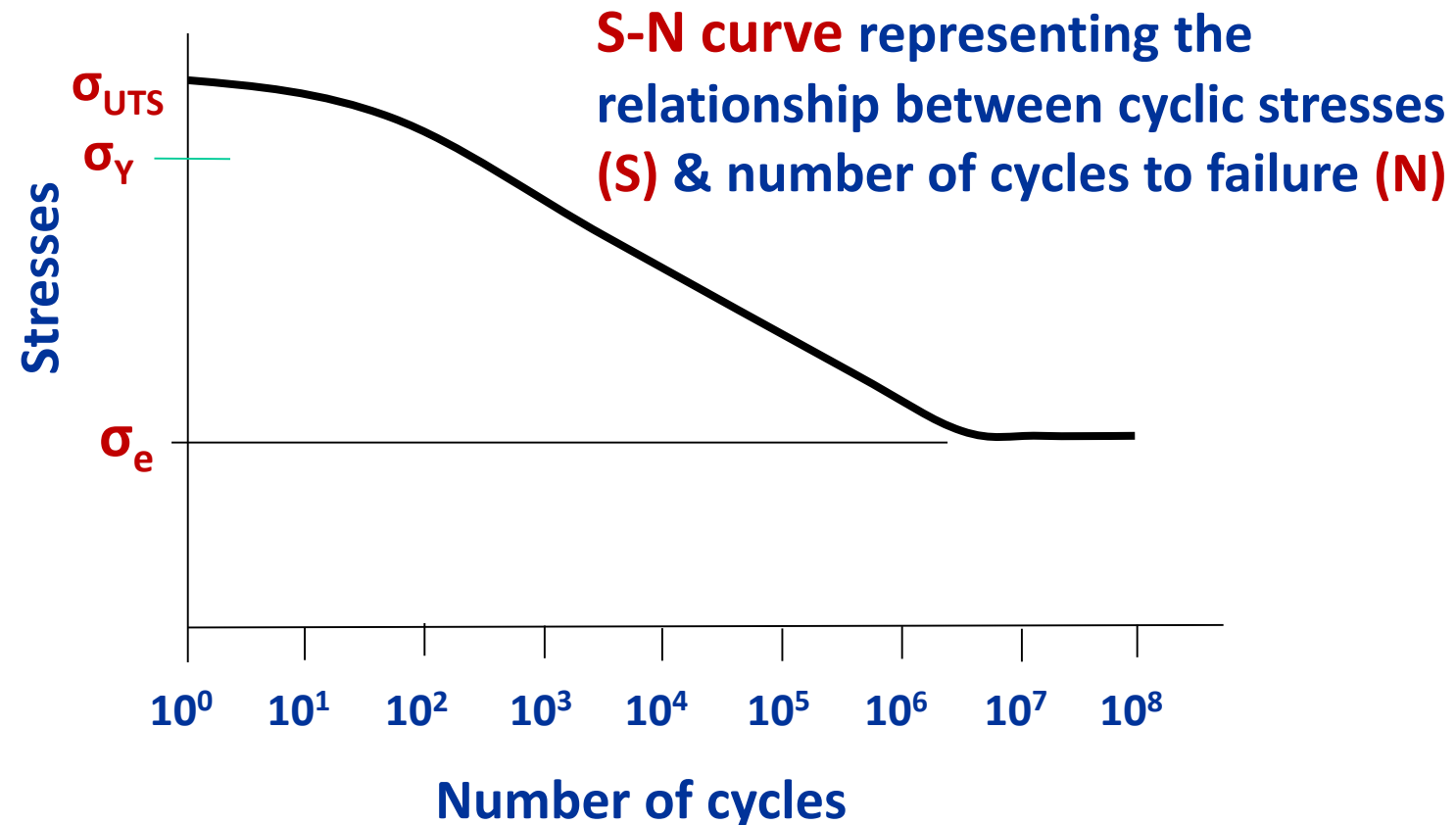
# Shaft diameter

Endurance limit stress ( $\sigma_e$ ) is a limit level of stress, with which fatigue failure wouldn't occur in under cyclic or alternating load condition.

$\sigma$  at failure decreases for increased cyclic loading

After more than  $10^6$  cycles, reduction in  $\sigma$  stops.

Material will last for “infinite” cycles so long as the endurance limit stress,  $\sigma_e$ , isn't exceeded



Most steels have this fatigue behaviour  
-> Often used for shafts



# Shaft diameter

**Endurance limit stress,  $\sigma_e$** , is affected by factors such as loading, reliability and stress concentration of a **specific shaft design**, etc

$$\sigma_e = k_a k_b k_c k_d k_e k_f k_g \sigma_e' \quad \sigma_e' \text{ - Endurance limit of test specimen}$$

Where,

**$k_a$  = surface factor**

$k_b$  = size factor (=1)

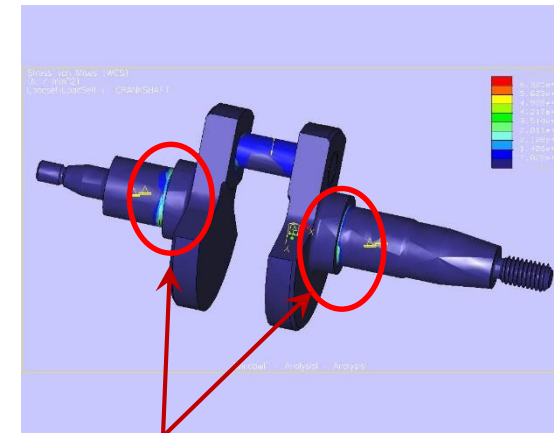
**$k_c$  = reliability factor**

$k_d$  = temperature factor (=1)

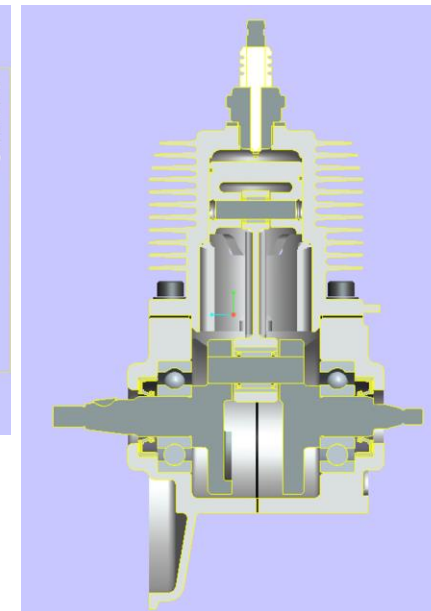
$k_e$  = duty cycle factor (=1)

**$k_f$  = fatigue stress concentration factor**

$k_g$  = miscellaneous effects factor (=1)



**Stress concentration**  
in crankshaft of a 2-stroke  
engine



**Check Handouts for specific values  
of all the factors**

# Shaft diameter

$$\sigma_e = k_a k_b k_c k_d k_e k_f k_g \sigma_e'$$

Endurance limit stress of test specimen ( $\sigma_e'$ ) is related to  $\sigma_{UTS}$

where,

$k_a$  = surface factor

$k_b = 1$

$k_c$  = reliability factor

$k_d = 1$

$k_e = 1$

$k_f$  = stress concentration factor

$k_g = 1$

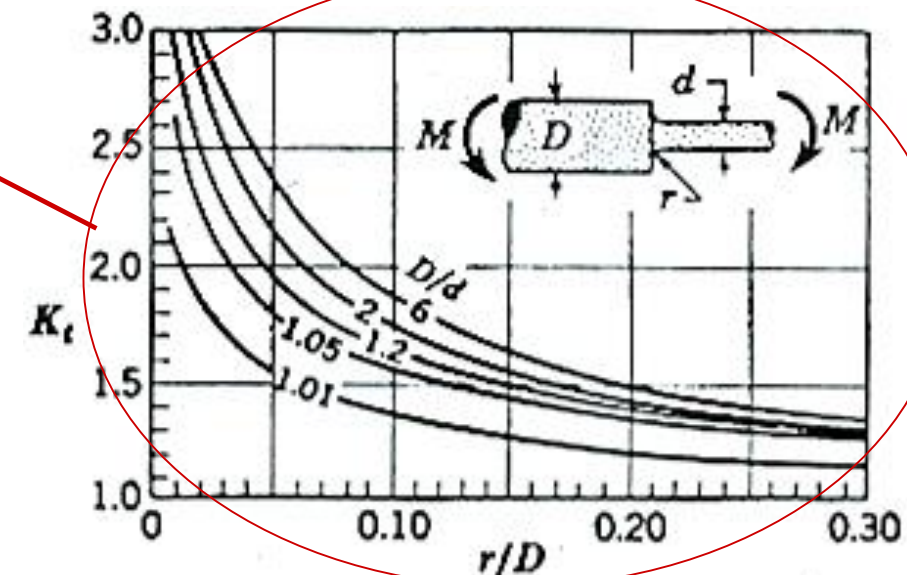
Select all **k factors** from graphs, tables, empirical formulas as given in Shaft Design handouts

$$\sigma_e' = 0.504 \sigma_{UTS} \text{ for } \sigma_{UTS} \leq 1400 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_e' = 700 \text{ MPa for } \sigma_{UTS} \geq 1400 \text{ MPa}$$

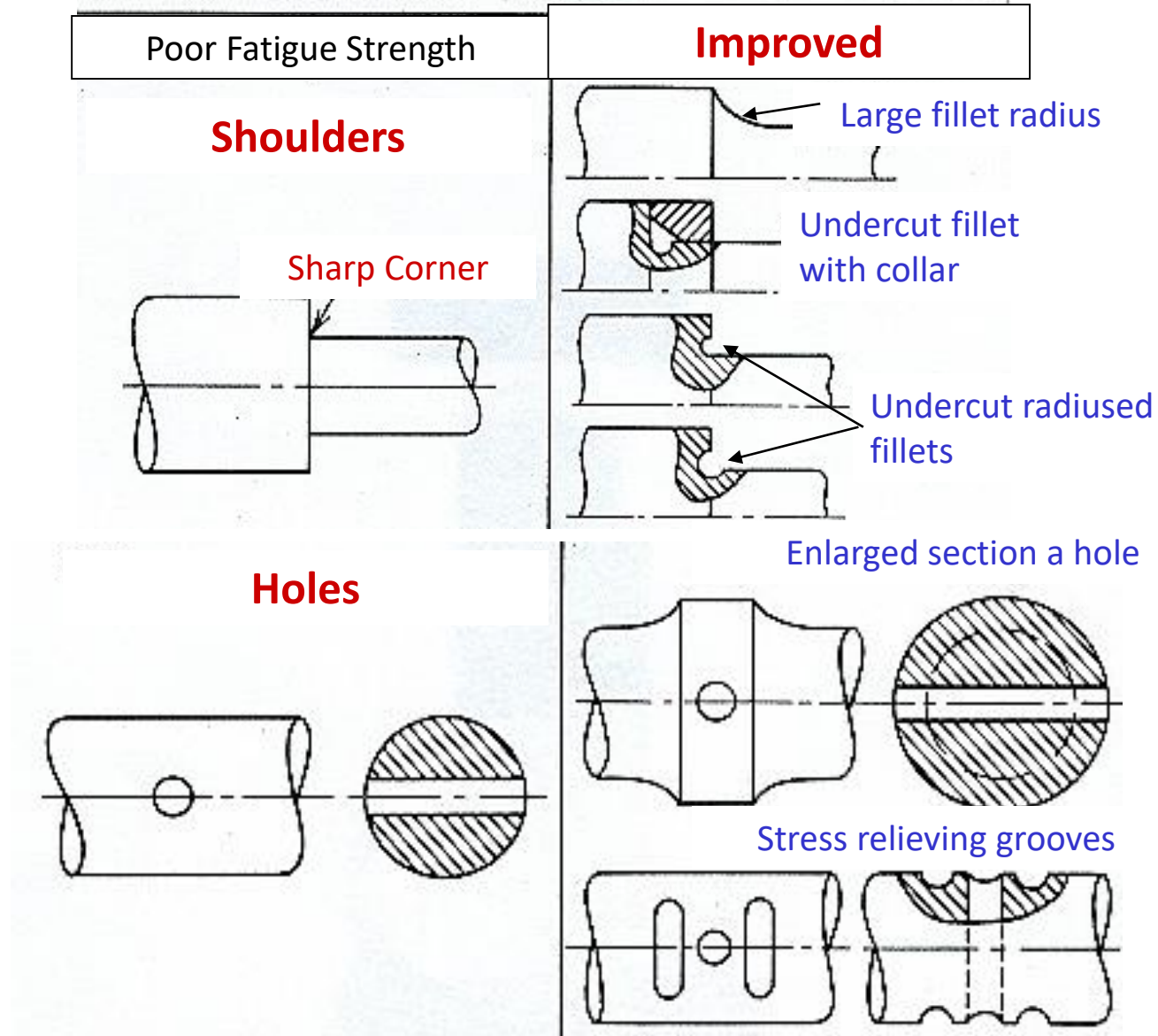
$$k_f = \frac{1}{1 + q(K_t - 1)}$$

$q$  is notch sensitivity factor (Fig. 4 of handout) and  $K_t$  is geometric stress concentration factor (Fig. 5 of Handout)



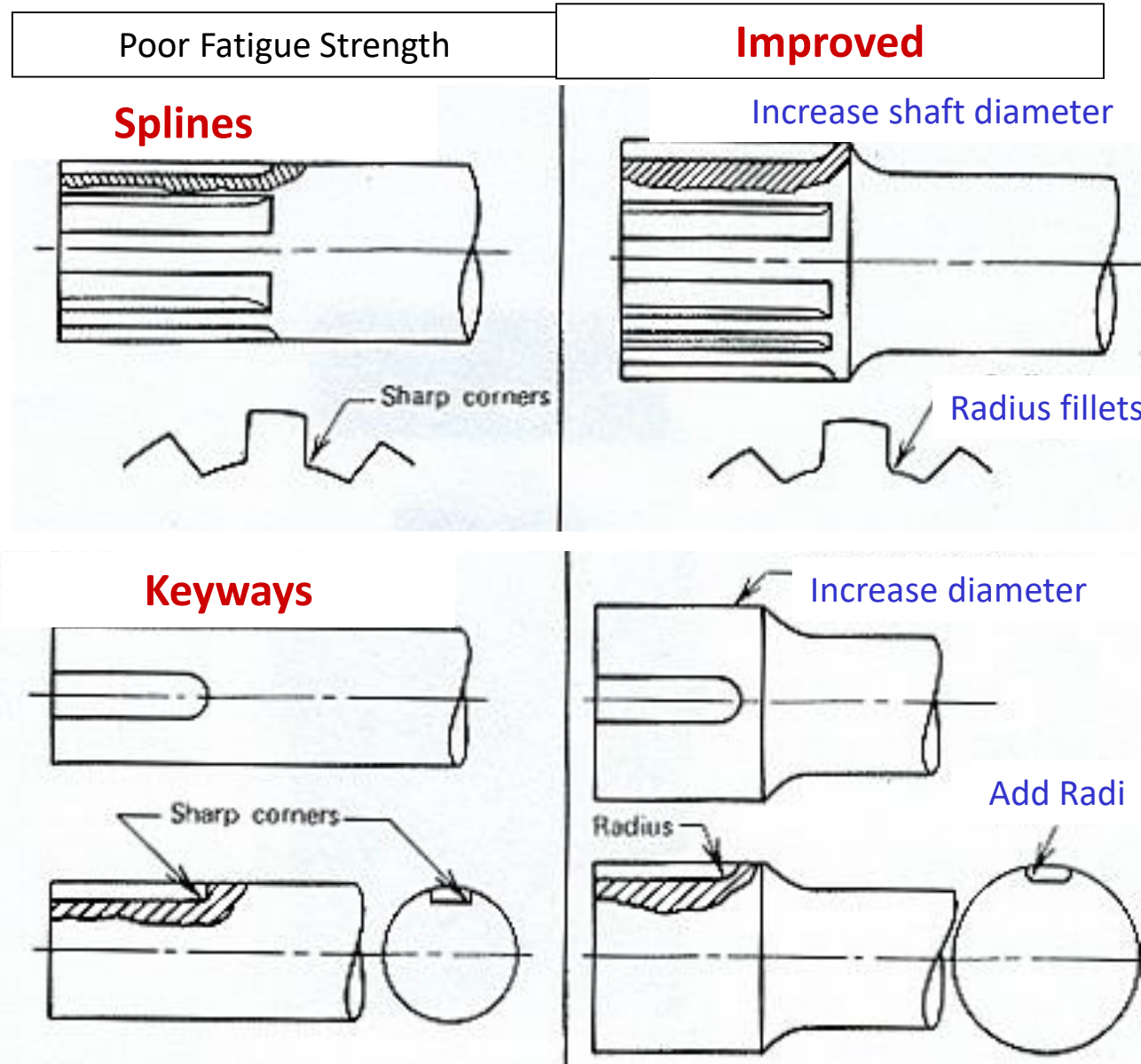
# Shaft fatigue

“Best practice” to minimise **stress concentration** -> fatigue

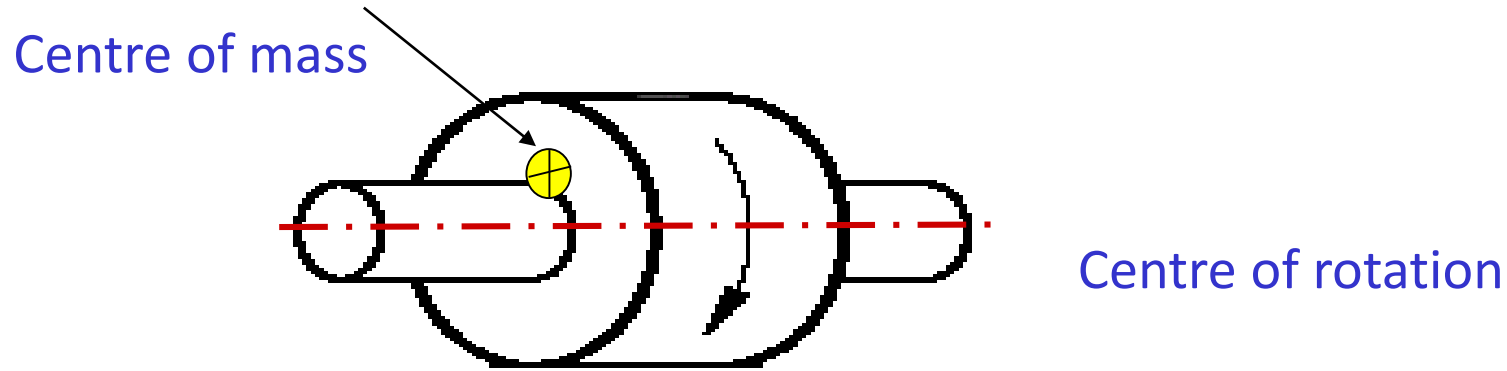


# Shaft fatigue

“Best practice” to minimise stress concentration -> fatigue



# Critical speed of shaft



Centre of Mass **should equal** Centre of Rotation

(but in practice it doesn't)

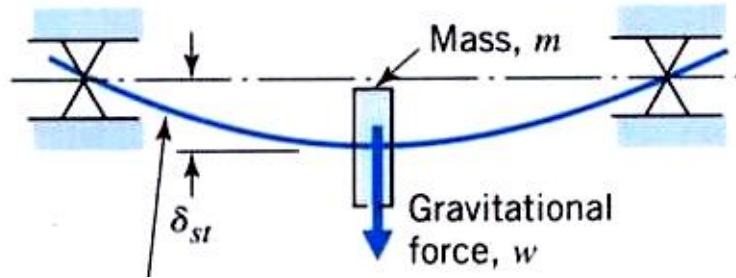
**Imbalance causes a deflection**

(**centrifugal force**,  $m\omega^2$  normally balanced by flexural rigidity, EI)

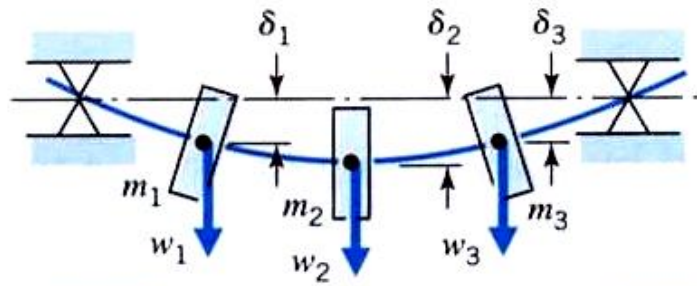
At the **critical speed (natural frequency)** shaft is unstable

(deflection increases significantly to break shaft, damage bearing and cause destructive vibration, "**shaft whirling**")

# Critical speed of shaft



Shaft with a single mass



Shaft with multiple masses

## Rule of Thumb

Operational speed of shaft should be  $\frac{1}{2}$  the critical speed



## First Critical Speed

$$\omega_c = \sqrt{\frac{g}{\delta_{st}}} \quad (\text{rad/s})$$

where,

$g$  – acceleration of gravity ( $\text{m/s}^2$ ),

$\delta_{st}$  – static deflection of shaft (m).

## Rayleigh-Ritz equation

$$\omega_c = \sqrt{g \frac{\sum w_i \delta_i}{\sum w_i \delta_i^2}} \quad (\text{rad/s})$$

where,

$w_i$  – weight of node  $i$  (N),

$\delta_i$  – static deflection of node  $i$  (m).

# Shaft deflection

Shaft deflection is required to determine **critical speed**

- **Macaulay's method** for the deflection in Beam Bending (**MMME2053**):

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{M}{EI} \quad y = \int_0^x \int_0^x \left( \frac{M}{EI} dx \right) dx + C_1 x + C_2$$

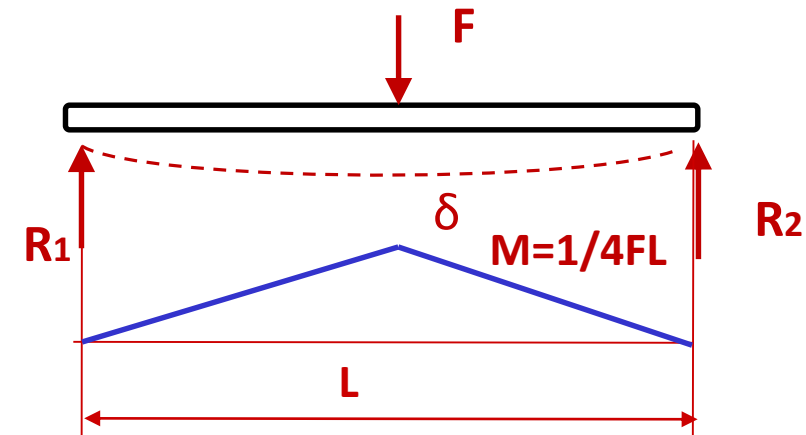
As an example, a plain shaft (a case of simply supported beam) under a force **F** at the centre of shaft, the maximum deflection is

$$\delta_{\max} = \frac{FL^3}{48EI}$$

where,

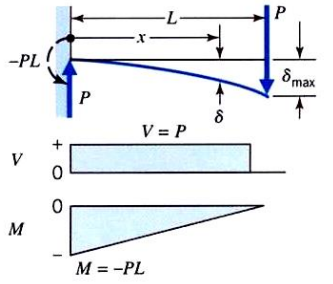
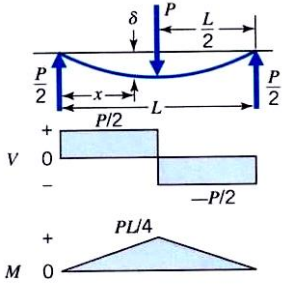
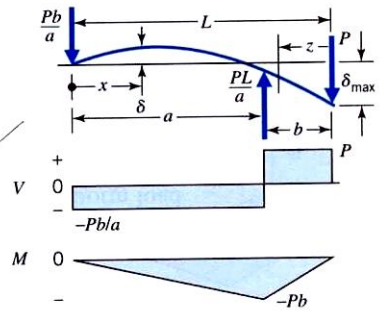
**F** – force applied (N),      **E** – Young's modulus (N/m<sup>2</sup>)

**L** – span of the beam (m),    **I** – 2<sup>nd</sup> moment of area (m<sup>4</sup>)



**Note:** be careful about the units in calculation

# Shaft deflection

Types of beams	Max deflection	Deflection at any point x
	$\delta_{max} = \frac{PL^3}{3EI}$	$\delta = \frac{Px^3}{6EI} (3L - x)$
	$\delta_{max} = \frac{PL^3}{48EI}$	$\delta = \frac{Px}{12EI} \left( \frac{3L^2}{4} - x^2 \right)$
	$\delta_{max} = \frac{Pb^2L}{3EI}$	<p>For <math>0 \leq x \leq a</math>:</p> $\delta = \frac{Pbx}{6aEI} (x^2 - a^2)$ <p>For <math>0 \leq z \leq b</math>:</p> $\delta = \frac{Pbx}{6EI} (z^3 - b(2L + b)z + 2b^2L)$



# Summary

- To be familiar with shaft **function, types and applications**
- To be able to design appropriate **shaft-hub and shaft-shaft connections**
- To be able analyse **shaft loading**
- To be able to determine **shaft diameter** using ASME design code
- To design features for **preventing fatigue**
- To determine **shaft deflection & critical speed**

# Revision Questions

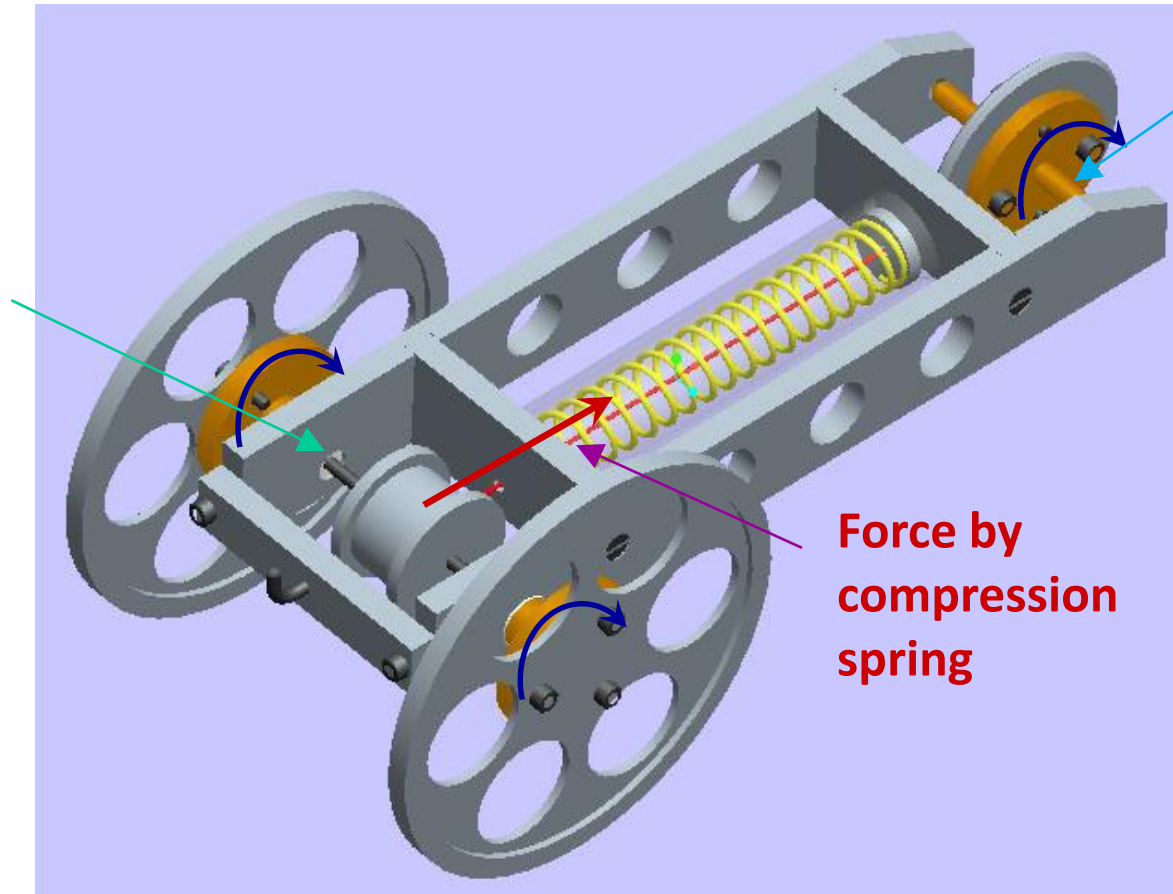
- a) Name a few common types of shafts.
- b) What are the key consideration factors in designing a shaft?
- c) What are the common means used in shaft-hub and shaft-shaft connections?
- d) What would be the suitable fits of the inner ring of a rolling bearing to support a rotating shaft and the outer ring mounted in housing?
- e) How would you define a critical cross-section when you calculate the minimum shaft diameter using ASME design code?
- f) What is Endurance Limit Stress ( $\sigma_e$ ) and how is it affected in shaft design?
- g) What are the common features that would create stress concentration in shaft design?
- h) What is the rule of thumb to avoid “shaft whirling”?

# Worked example 1

- Design the drive shaft of the spring powered cart

## Rear axle (shaft) to

- apply torque for forward motion
- mount drum, bearings & wheels
- support chassis



## Front axle (shaft) to

- mount front wheel
- support chassis

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Group design & make project: Spring Powered Cart**



# Worked example 2

- Design the output shaft of the centrifugal clutch

## Material:

Bright Drawn Mild Steel (BDMS)

$\sigma_{UTS} = 320 \text{ MPa}$  &  $\sigma_y = 220 \text{ MPa}$ .

Reserve factor,  $n_s = 2$

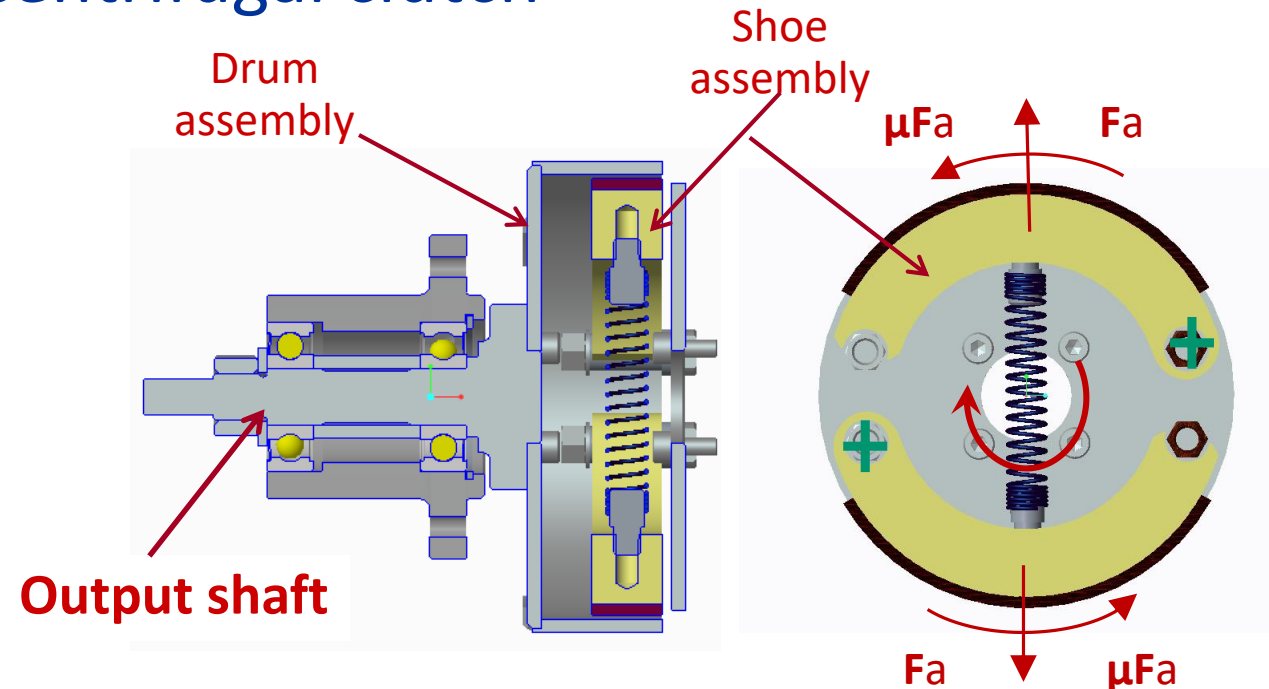
Maximum torque **0.5 Nm at 2300 rpm**

Design the output shaft

What is the **loading condition** of the output shaft?

How to determine the **minimum diameter**?

How to design **necessary features** for shaft connection?



**What is a centrifugal clutch?**

A mechanical device to allow smooth connection of two rotating shafts by centrifugal forces (more details will be covered in **Brakes & Clutches Lecture**)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6opn\\_jZMAE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6opn_jZMAE)

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KL\\_P1mNMx\\_k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KL_P1mNMx_k)

# Exercise two solution

- Designing the output shaft of centrifugal clutch

## Material:

Bright Drawn Mild Steel (BDMS)

$\sigma_{UTS} = 320 \text{ MPa}$  &  $\sigma_y = 220 \text{ MPa}$ .

Reserve factor,  $n_s = 2$

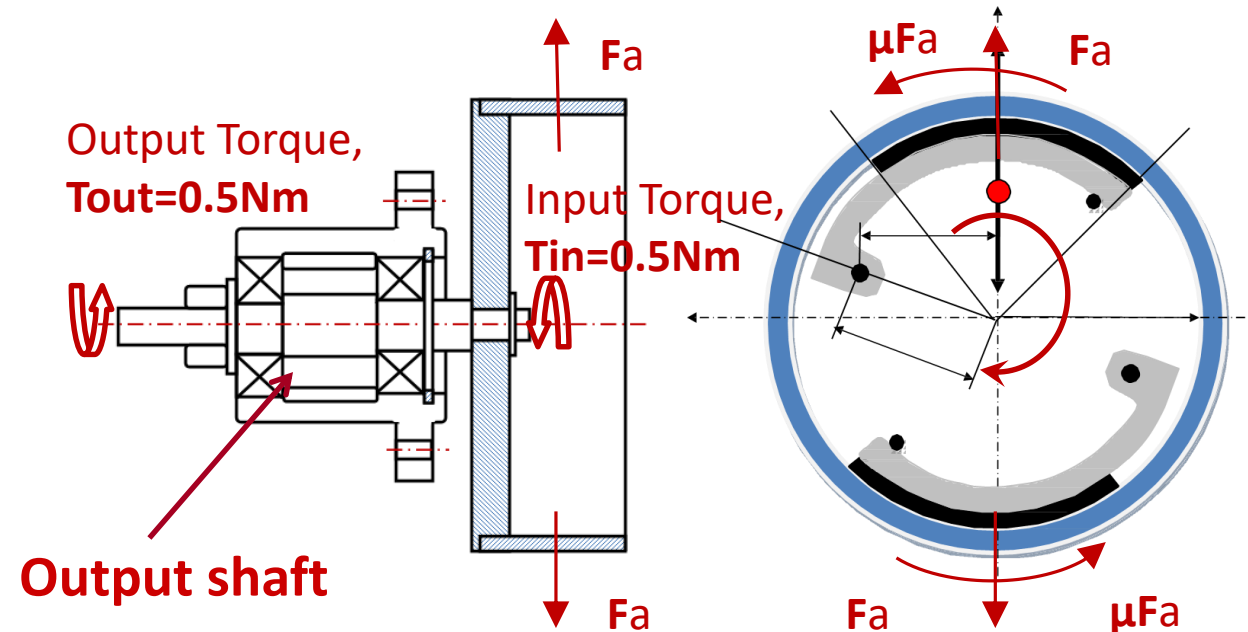
Maximum torque is **0.5Nm**

Shaft loading conditions

Minimum diameter of the shaft

$$d = \left[ \frac{32n_s}{\pi} \sqrt{\left( \frac{M}{\sigma_e} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{T}{\sigma_y} \right)^2} \right]^{1/3} = \left[ \frac{32 \times 2}{3.1416} \sqrt{\left( \frac{0.0}{\sigma_e} \right)^2 + \frac{3}{4} \left( \frac{0.5}{220 \times 10^6} \right)^2} \right]^{1/3} = 3.423 \times 10^{-3} (m)$$

Although the minimum shaft dia is **3.5 mm**, in practical design a larger diameter may be used for practical considerations.





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# Shaft design

End of Part 2



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# Shaft design

## Part 3 Worked examples



# An additional worked example

- Determining Shaft diameter of a transmission shaft with belt & spur gear drives

Calculate the minimum shaft diameter

**Material:**

817M40 hot rolled alloy steel

$\sigma_{UTS} = 1000$  MPa

$\sigma_y = 770$  MPa.

Brinell hardness is approximately 220 BHN.

Reserve factor,  $n_s = 2$

**Features:**

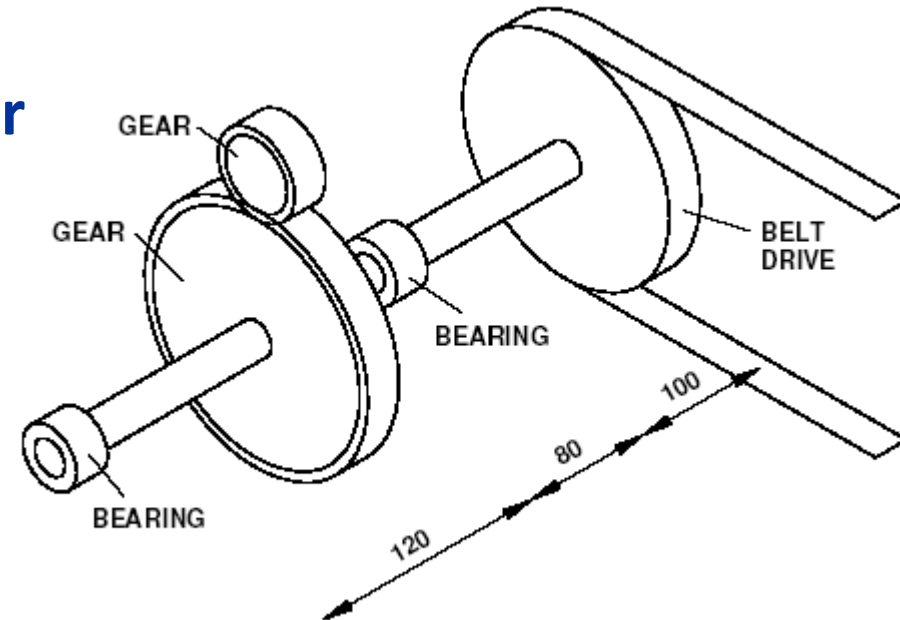
Radii on fillets is  $r = 3$  mm.

Reliability required is 90%

**Output:**

8 kW at 900 RPM with a **Torque of ??**

*See Handouts for detailed calculations*



$$P_{(W)} = T_{(Nm)} \omega_{(1/s)}$$

$$\omega_{(1/s)} = \frac{2\pi}{60} n_{(rpm)}$$

$$T_{(Nm)} = \frac{60 \times 10^3 P_{(kW)}}{2\pi n_{(rpm)}}$$



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# Shaft design

End of Part 3