

# Power Screws

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- Thread Standards and Definitions
- Stress Areas of Threads
- Mechanics of Power Screws (Square Threads)
- Self Locking Condition
- Power Screw Efficiency
- Power Screws with Acme Threads
- Presence of Collar Friction
- Body Stresses –Determine if it is safe for the Load

# Thread Standards and Definitions

- **Pitch** – distance between adjacent threads.  
Reciprocal of threads per inch
- **Major diameter** – largest diameter of thread
- **Minor diameter** – smallest diameter of thread
- **Pitch diameter** – theoretical diameter between major and minor diameters, where tooth and gap are same width

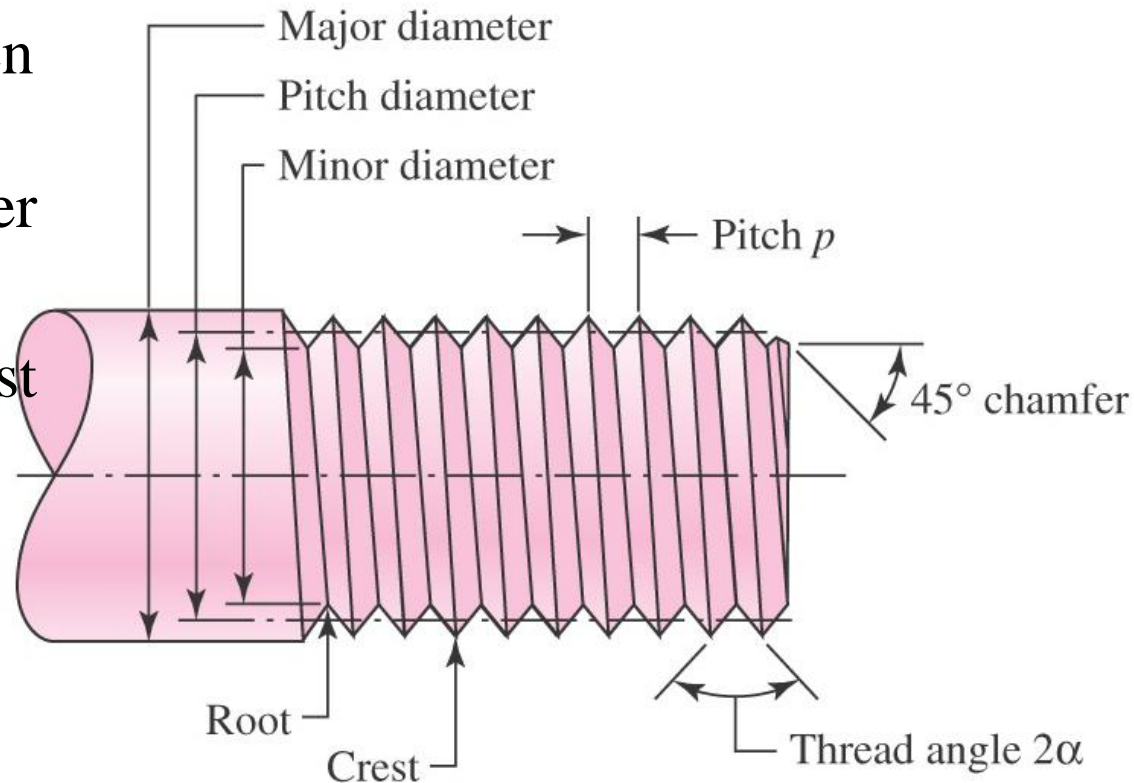


Fig. 8–1

# Standardization

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- The *American National (Unified)* thread standard defines basic thread geometry for uniformity and interchangeability
- **American National (Unified) thread**
  - UN normal thread
  - UNR greater root radius for fatigue applications
- **Metric thread**
  - M series (normal thread)
  - MJ series (greater root radius)

# Standardization

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- **Coarse series UNC**
  - General assembly
  - Frequent disassembly
  - Not good for vibrations
  - The “normal” thread to specify
- **Fine series UNF**
  - Good for vibrations
  - Good for adjustments
  - Automotive and aircraft
- **Extra Fine series UNEF**
  - Good for shock and large vibrations
  - High grade alloy
  - Instrumentation
  - Aircraft

# Standardization

- Basic profile for metric M and MJ threads shown in Fig. 8–2
- Tables 8–1 and 8–2 define basic dimensions for standard threads

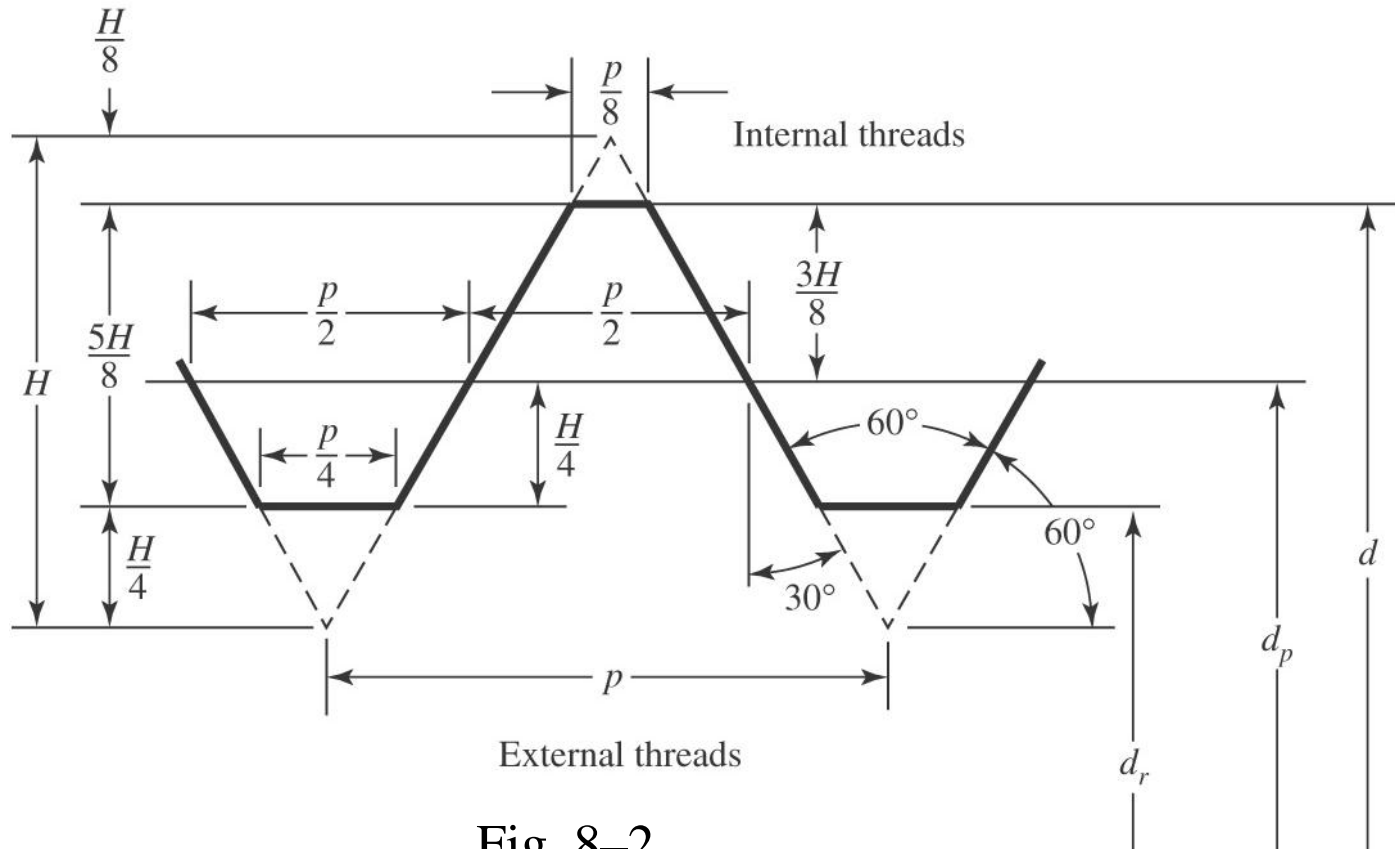


Fig. 8–2

# Diameters and Areas for Metric Threads

**Table 8-1**

Diameters and Areas of Coarse-Pitch and Fine-Pitch Metric Threads.\*

Nominal Major Diameter <i>d</i> mm	Coarse-Pitch Series			Fine-Pitch Series		
	Pitch <i>p</i> mm	Tensile- Stress Area <i>A<sub>t</sub></i> mm <sup>2</sup>	Minor- Diameter Area <i>A<sub>r</sub></i> mm <sup>2</sup>	Pitch <i>p</i> mm	Tensile- Stress Area <i>A<sub>t</sub></i> mm <sup>2</sup>	Minor- Diameter Area <i>A<sub>r</sub></i> mm <sup>2</sup>
1.6	0.35	1.27	1.07			
2	0.40	2.07	1.79			
2.5	0.45	3.39	2.98			
3	0.5	5.03	4.47			
3.5	0.6	6.78	6.00			
4	0.7	8.78	7.75			
5	0.8	14.2	12.7			
6	1	20.1	17.9			
8	1.25	36.6	32.8	1	39.2	36.0
10	1.5	58.0	52.3	1.25	61.2	56.3
12	1.75	84.3	76.3	1.25	92.1	86.0
14	2	115	104	1.5	125	116
16	2	157	144	1.5	167	157
20	2.5	245	225	1.5	272	259
24	3	353	324	2	384	365
30	3.5	561	519	2	621	596
36	4	817	759	2	915	884
42	4.5	1120	1050	2	1260	1230
48	5	1470	1380	2	1670	1630
56	5.5	2030	1910	2	2300	2250
64	6	2680	2520	2	3030	2980

# Diameters and Areas for Unified Screw Threads

Table 8–2

Size Designation	Nominal Major Diameter in	Coarse Series—UNC			Fine Series—UNF		
		Threads per Inch $N$	Tensile-Stress Area $A_t$ , in <sup>2</sup>	Minor-Diameter Area $A_r$ , in <sup>2</sup>	Threads per Inch $N$	Tensile-Stress Area $A_t$ , in <sup>2</sup>	Minor-Diameter Area $A_r$ , in <sup>2</sup>
0	0.0600				80	0.001 80	0.001 51
1	0.0730	64	0.002 63	0.002 18	72	0.002 78	0.002 37
2	0.0860	56	0.003 70	0.003 10	64	0.003 94	0.003 39
3	0.0990	48	0.004 87	0.004 06	56	0.005 23	0.004 51
4	0.1120	40	0.006 04	0.004 96	48	0.006 61	0.005 66
5	0.1250	40	0.007 96	0.006 72	44	0.008 80	0.007 16
6	0.1380	32	0.009 09	0.007 45	40	0.010 15	0.008 74
8	0.1640	32	0.014 0	0.011 96	36	0.014 74	0.012 85
10	0.1900	24	0.017 5	0.014 50	32	0.020 0	0.017 5
12	0.2160	24	0.024 2	0.020 6	28	0.025 8	0.022 6
$\frac{1}{4}$	0.2500	20	0.031 8	0.026 9	28	0.036 4	0.032 6
$\frac{5}{16}$	0.3125	18	0.052 4	0.045 4	24	0.058 0	0.052 4
$\frac{3}{8}$	0.3750	16	0.077 5	0.067 8	24	0.087 8	0.080 9
$\frac{7}{16}$	0.4375	14	0.106 3	0.093 3	20	0.118 7	0.109 0
$\frac{1}{2}$	0.5000	13	0.141 9	0.125 7	20	0.159 9	0.148 6
$\frac{9}{16}$	0.5625	12	0.182	0.162	18	0.203	0.189
$\frac{5}{8}$	0.6250	11	0.226	0.202	18	0.256	0.240
$\frac{3}{4}$	0.7500	10	0.334	0.302	16	0.373	0.351
$\frac{7}{8}$	0.8750	9	0.462	0.419	14	0.509	0.480
1	1.0000	8	0.606	0.551	12	0.663	0.625
$1\frac{1}{4}$	1.2500	7	0.969	0.890	12	1.073	1.024
$1\frac{1}{2}$	1.5000	6	1.405	1.294	12	1.581	1.521

# Tensile Stress Area

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- The tensile stress area,  $A_t$ , is the area of an unthreaded rod with the same tensile strength as a threaded rod.
- **It is the effective area of a threaded rod to be used for stress calculations.**
- The diameter of this unthreaded rod is the average of the pitch diameter and the minor diameter of the threaded rod.



# Square and Acme Threads

- **Square and Acme threads are used when the threads are intended to transmit power**

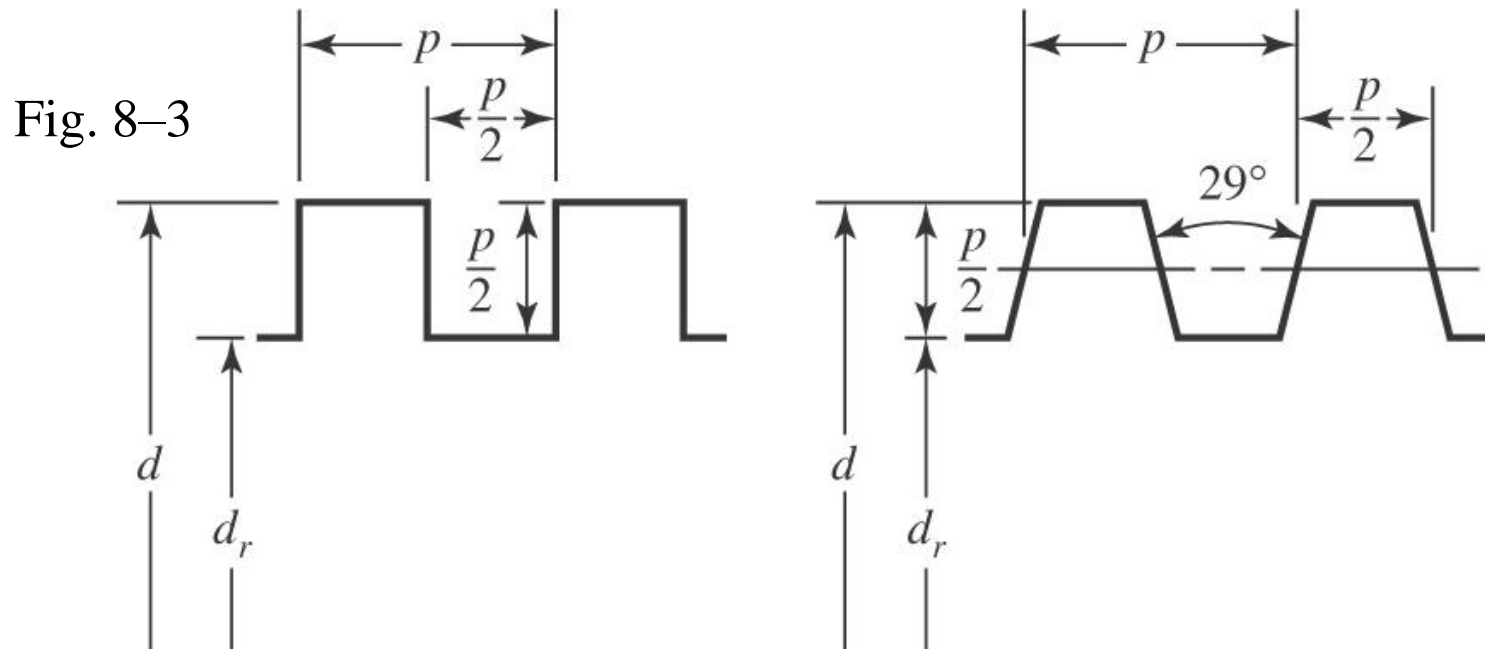


Table 8-3 Preferred Pitches for Acme Threads

$d$ , in	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{5}{16}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	1	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{3}{4}$	2	$2\frac{1}{2}$	3
$p$ , in	$\frac{1}{16}$	$\frac{1}{14}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

# Mechanics of Power Screws

- ***Power screw***
  - Used to change angular motion into linear motion
  - Usually transmits power
  - Examples include vises, presses, jacks, lead screw on lathe

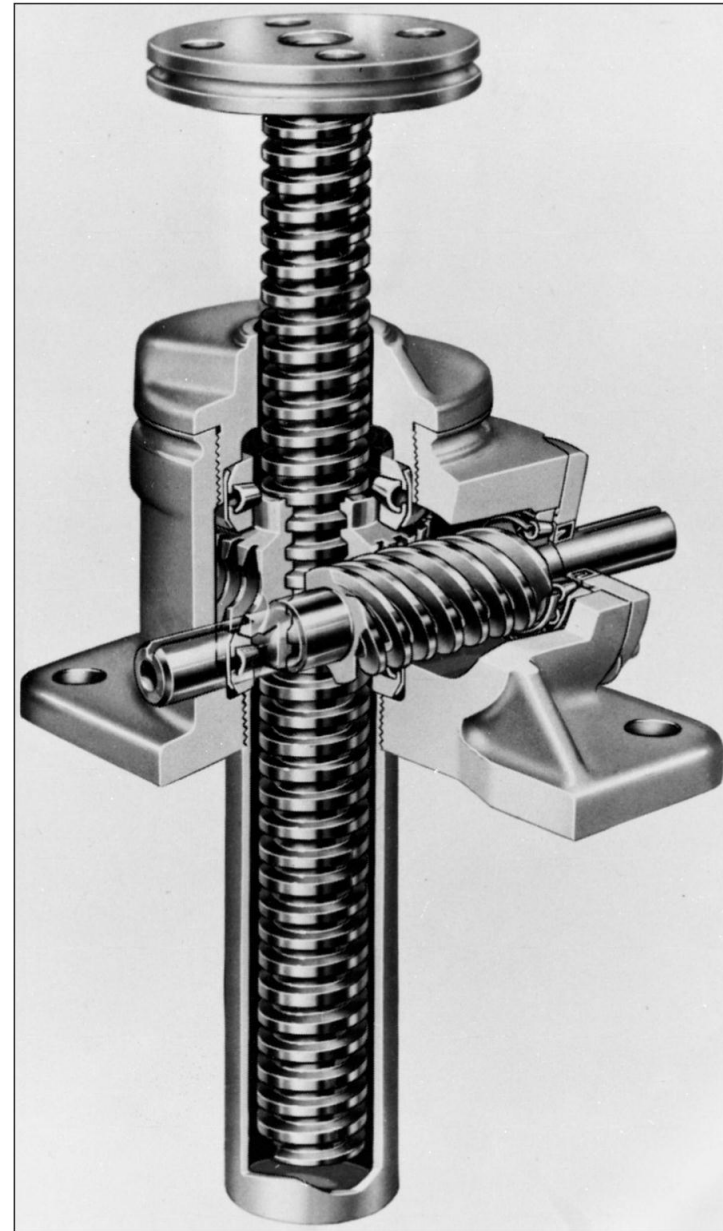


Fig. 8–4

# Mechanics of Power Screws

- Find expression for torque required to raise or lower a load
- Unroll one turn of a thread
- Treat thread as inclined plane
- Do force analysis

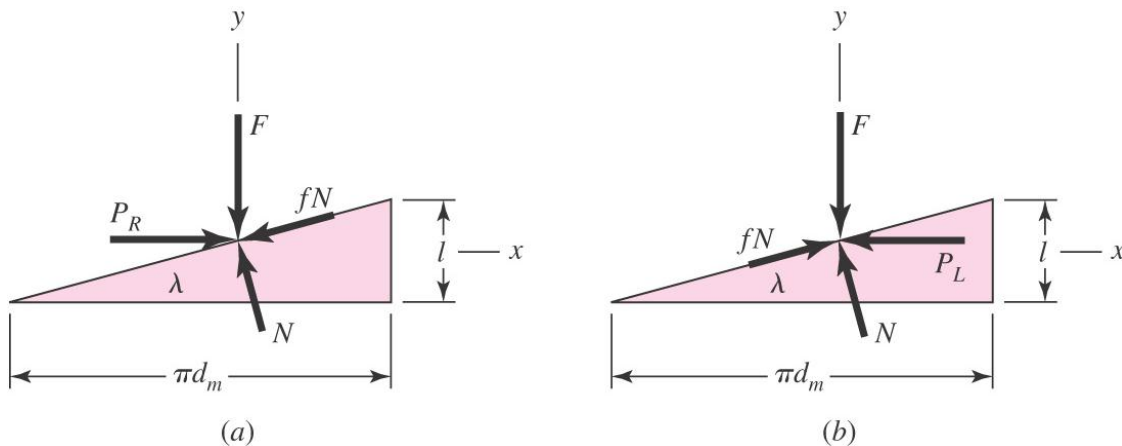
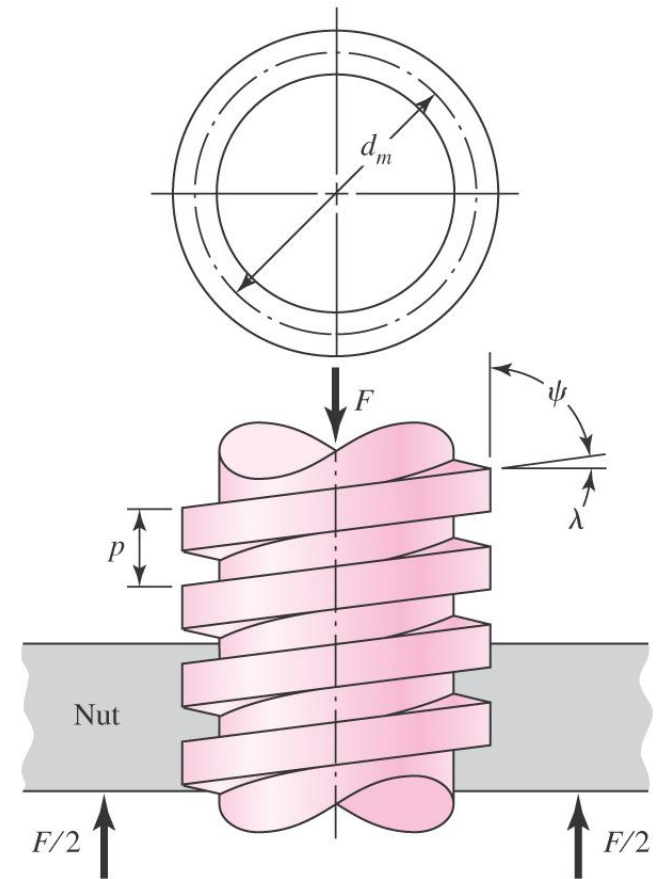


Fig. 8-6



# Mechanics of Power Screws

- **For raising the load**

$$\sum F_x = P_R - N \sin \lambda - f N \cos \lambda = 0$$

(a)

$$\sum F_y = -F - f N \sin \lambda + N \cos \lambda = 0$$

- **For lowering the load**

$$\sum F_x = -P_L - N \sin \lambda + f N \cos \lambda = 0$$

(b)

$$\sum F_y = -F + f N \sin \lambda + N \cos \lambda = 0$$

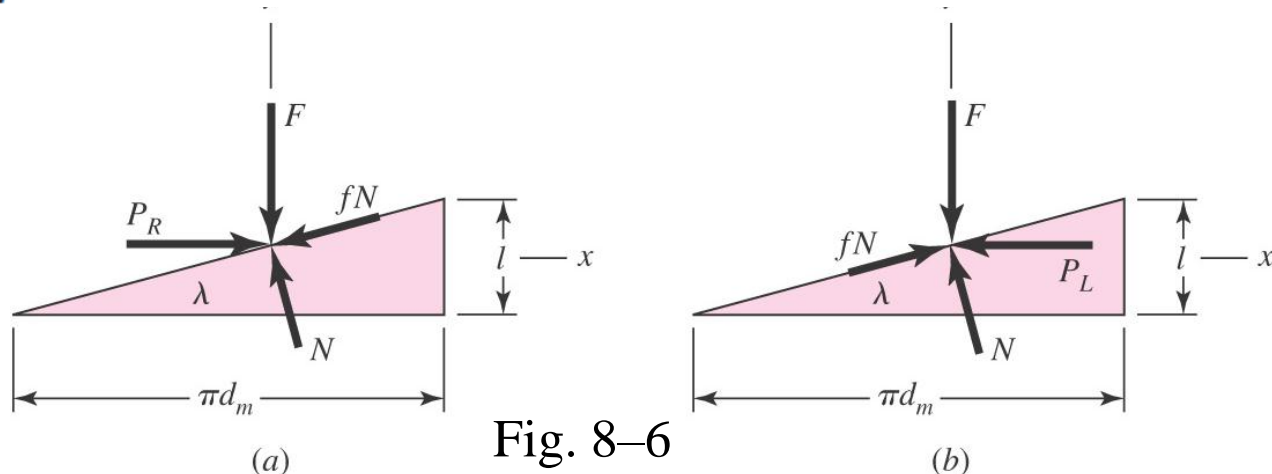


Fig. 8-6

# Mechanics of Power Screws

- Eliminate  $N$  and solve for  $P$  to raise and lower the load

$$P_R = \frac{F(\sin \lambda + f \cos \lambda)}{\cos \lambda - f \sin \lambda} \quad (c)$$

$$P_L = \frac{F(f \cos \lambda - \sin \lambda)}{\cos \lambda + f \sin \lambda} \quad (d)$$

- Divide numerator and denominator by  $\cos \lambda$  and use relation  $\tan \lambda = l / \pi d_m$

$$P_R = \frac{F[(l / \pi d_m) + f]}{1 - (fl / \pi d_m)} \quad (e)$$

$$P_L = \frac{F[f - (l / \pi d_m)]}{1 + (fl / \pi d_m)} \quad (f)$$

## Raising and Lowering Torque

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- Noting that the torque is the product of the force and the mean radius,

$$T_R = \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{l + \pi f d_m}{\pi d_m - f l} \right) \quad (8-1)$$

$$T_L = \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{\pi f d_m - l}{\pi d_m + f l} \right) \quad (8-2)$$

# Self-locking Condition

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$$T_L = \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{\pi f d_m - l}{\pi d_m + f l} \right) \quad (8-2)$$

- If the lowering torque is negative, the load will lower itself by causing the screw to spin without any external effort.
- If the lowering torque is positive, the screw is *self-locking*.
- **Self-locking condition is  $\pi f d_m > l$**
- Noting that  $l / \pi d_m = \tan \lambda$ , the self-locking condition can be seen to only involve the coefficient of friction and the lead angle.

$$f > \tan \lambda \quad (8-3)$$

# Collar Friction

- An additional component of torque is often needed to account for the friction between a collar and the load.
- Assuming the load is concentrated at the mean collar diameter  $d_c$

$$T_c = \frac{F f_c d_c}{2} \quad (8-6)$$

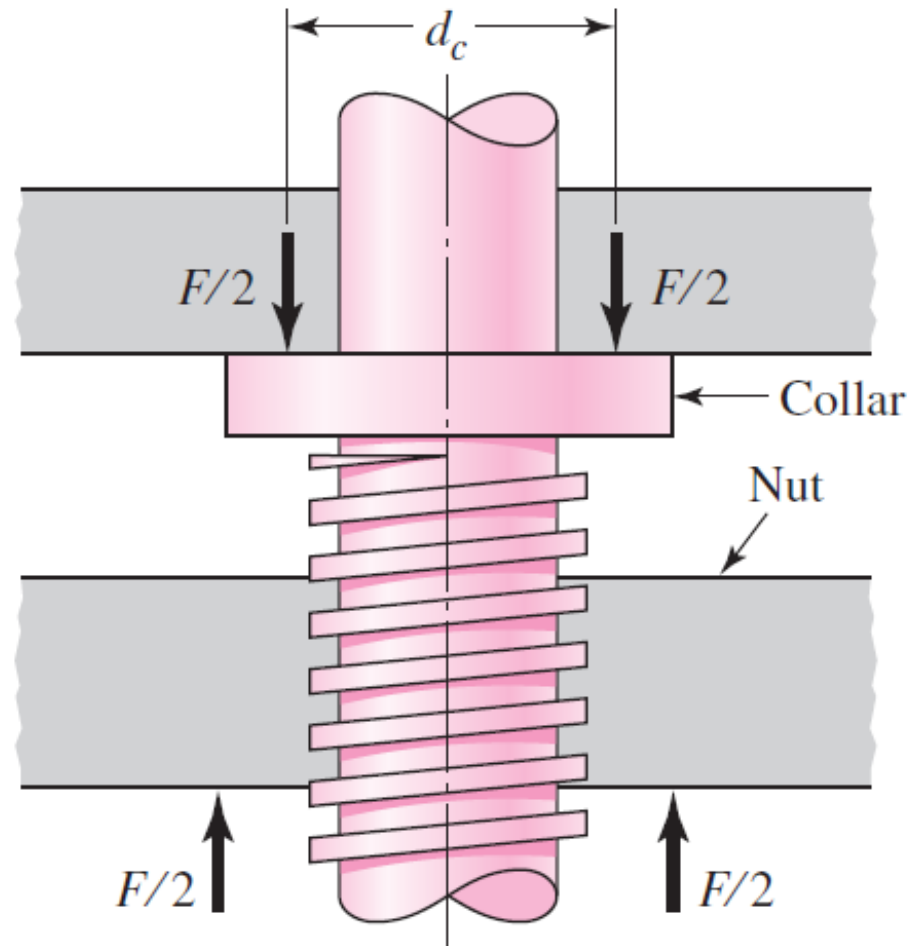


Fig. 8-7(b)



# Power Screw Efficiency

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$$T_R = \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{l + \pi f d_m}{\pi d_m - f l} \right) \quad (8-1)$$

- The torque needed to raise the load with no friction losses can be found from Eq. (8-1) with  $f = 0$ .

$$T_0 = \frac{F l}{2\pi} \quad (g)$$

- The efficiency of the power screw is:

$$e = \frac{T_0}{T_R} = \frac{F l}{2\pi T_R} \quad (8-4)$$

# Power Screws with Acme Threads

- If Acme threads are used instead of square threads, the thread angle creates a wedging action.
- The friction components are increased.
- The torque necessary to raise a load (or tighten a screw) is found by dividing the **friction terms** in Eq. (8–1) by  $\cos \alpha$ .

$$T_R = \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{l + \pi f d_m}{\pi d_m - f l} \right) \quad (8-1)$$

$$T_R = \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{l + \pi f d_m \sec \alpha}{\pi d_m - f l \sec \alpha} \right) \quad (8-5)$$

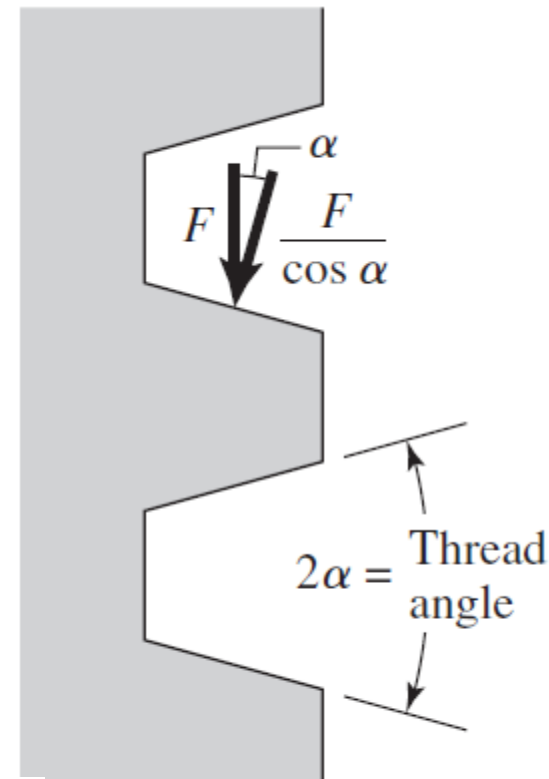


Fig. 8-7 (a)

# Stresses in Body of Power Screws

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- Maximum nominal shear stress in torsion of the screw body

$$\tau = \frac{16T}{\pi d_r^3} \quad (8-7)$$

- Axial stress in screw body

$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A} = \frac{4F}{\pi d_r^2} \quad (8-8)$$

# Stresses in Threads of Power Screws

- Bearing stress in threads,

$$\sigma_B = -\frac{F}{\pi d_m n_t p/2} = -\frac{2F}{\pi d_m n_t p} \quad (8-10)$$

where  $n_t$  is number of engaged threads

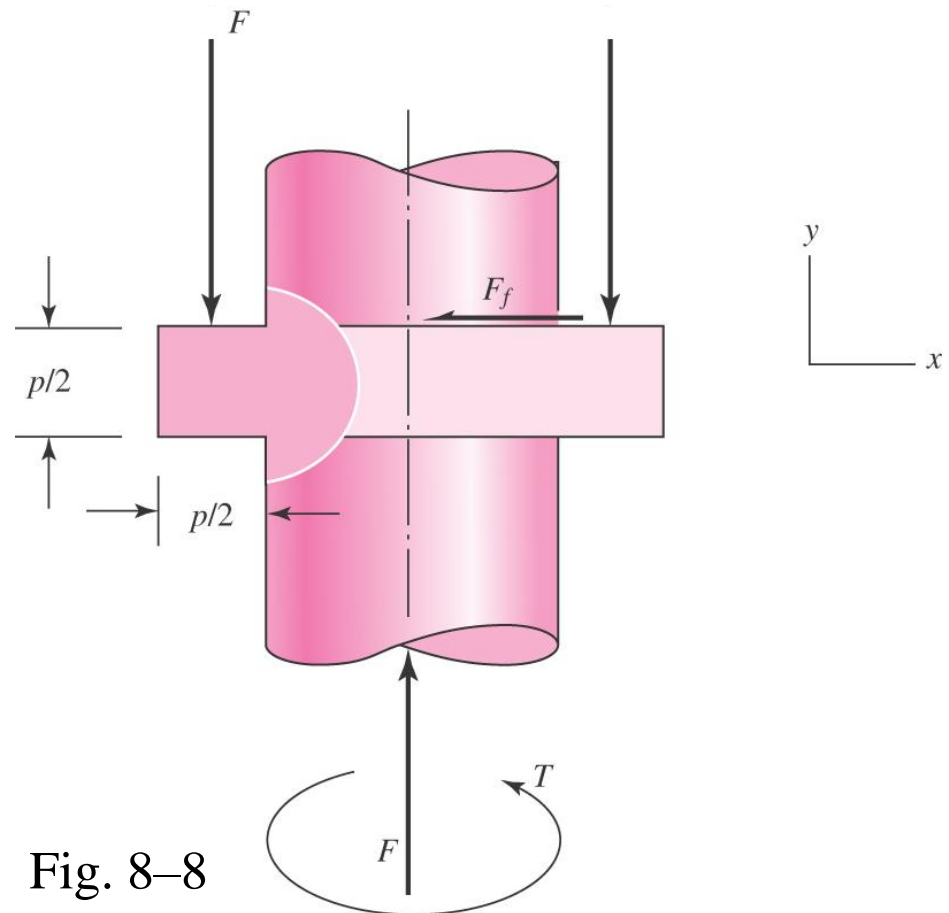


Fig. 8-8

# Stresses in Threads of Power Screws

- Bending stress at root of thread,

$$Z = \frac{I}{c} = \frac{(\pi d_r n_t) (p/2)^2}{6} = \frac{\pi}{24} d_r n_t p^2$$

$$M = \frac{F p}{4}$$

$$\sigma_b = \frac{M}{Z} = \frac{F p}{4} \frac{24}{\pi d_r n_t p^2} = \frac{6F}{\pi d_r n_t p}$$

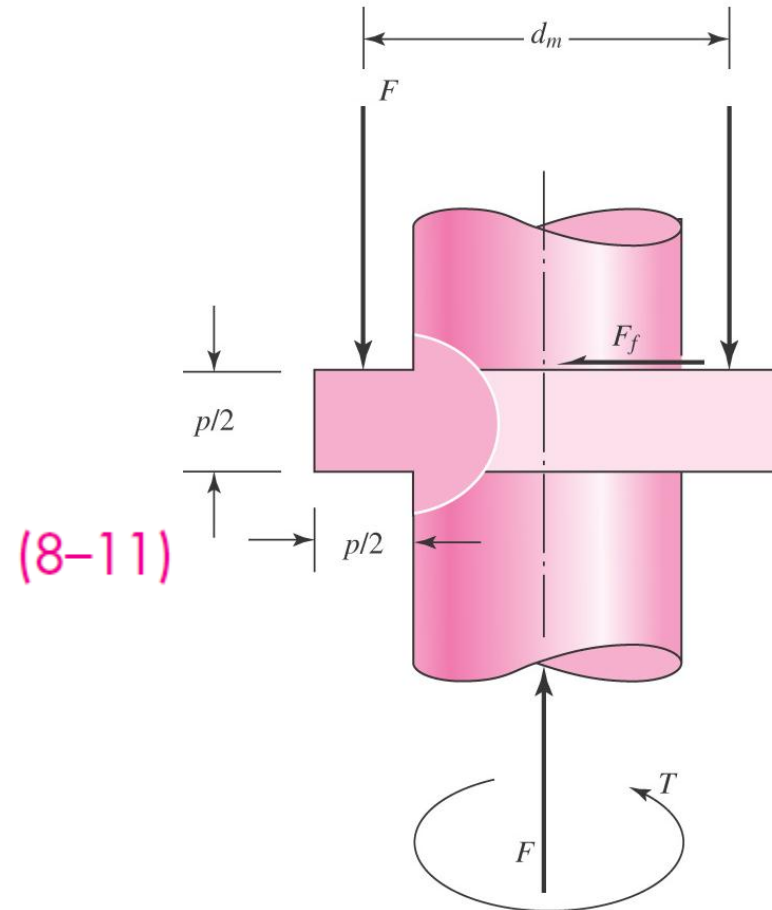


Fig. 8-8

# Stresses in Threads of Power Screws

- Transverse shear stress at center of root of thread,

$$\tau = \frac{3V}{2A} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{F}{\pi d_r n_t p/2} = \frac{3F}{\pi d_r n_t p}$$

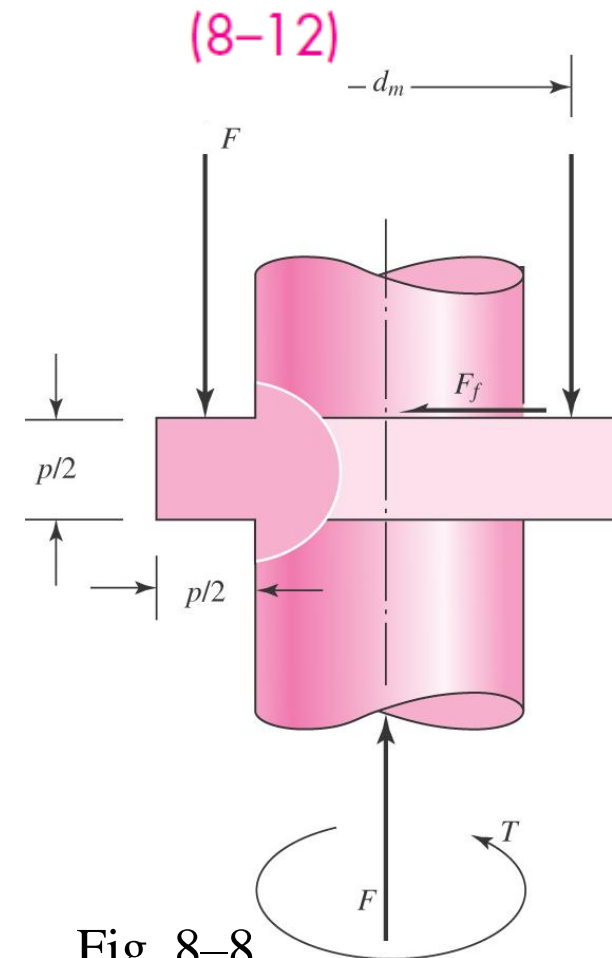


Fig. 8-8

# Stresses in Threads of Power Screws

- Consider stress element at the top of the root “plane”

$$\sigma_x = \frac{6F}{\pi d_r n_t p}$$

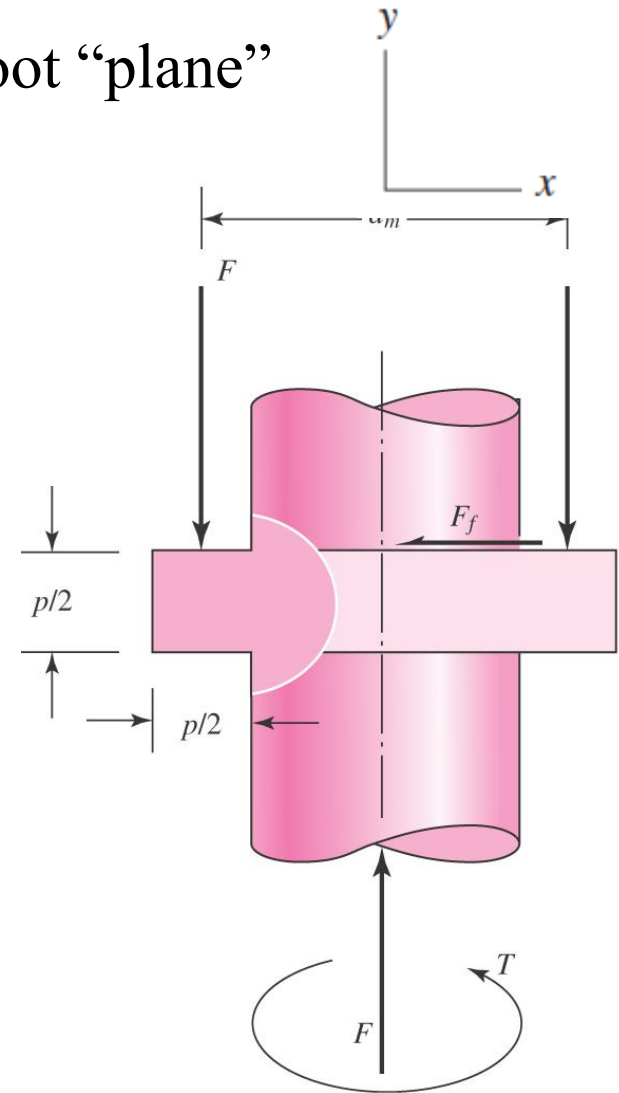
$$\tau_{xy} = 0$$

$$\sigma_y = -\frac{4F}{\pi d_r^2}$$

$$\tau_{yz} = \frac{16T}{\pi d_r^3}$$

$$\sigma_z = 0$$

$$\tau_{zx} = 0$$



# Stresses in Threads of Power Screws

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Obtain von Mises stress from:

$$\sigma' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [(\sigma_x - \sigma_y)^2 + (\sigma_y - \sigma_z)^2 + (\sigma_z - \sigma_x)^2 + 6(\tau_{xy}^2 + \tau_{yz}^2 + \tau_{zx}^2)]^{1/2} \quad (5-14)$$

**Design Equation using Maximum Distortion Energy:**

$$\mathbf{n} = S_Y / \sigma^1$$



# Thread Deformation in Screw-Nut Combination

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- The engaged threads cannot share the load equally.
- Experiments indicate the first thread carries 38% of the load, the second thread 25%, and the third thread 18%. The seventh thread is free of load.
- To find the largest stress in the first thread of a screw-nut combination, use  $0.38F$  in place of  $F$ , and set  $n_t = 1$ .

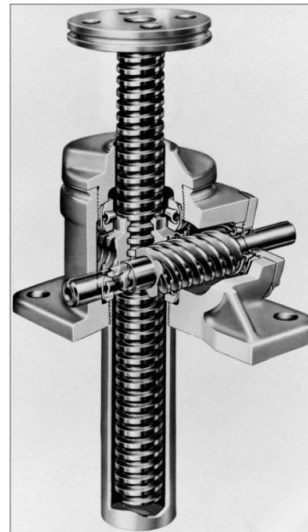
# Example-Power Screw

A square-thread power screw has a major diameter of 32 mm and a pitch of 4 mm with double threads, and it is to be used in an application similar to that in Fig. 8–4.

The given data include  $f = f_c = 0.08$ ,  $d_c = 40$  mm, and  $F = 6.4$  kN per screw.

- (a) Find the thread depth, thread width, pitch diameter, minor diameter, and lead.
- (b) Find the torque required to raise and lower the load.
- (c) Find the efficiency during lifting the load.
- (d) Find the body stresses, torsional and compressive.
- (e) Find the bearing stress.
- (f) Find the thread bending stress at the root of the thread.
- (g) Determine the von Mises stress at the root of the thread.
- (h) Determine the maximum shear stress at the root of the thread.

Fig. 8–4



*Courtesy Joyce-Dayton  
Corp., Dayton, Ohio.*

## Example -(continued)

(a) From Fig. 8–3a the thread depth and width are the same and equal to half the pitch, or 2 mm. Also

$$d_m = d - p/2 = 32 - 4/2 = 30 \text{ mm} \quad \text{Answer}$$

$$d_r = d - p = 32 - 4 = 28 \text{ mm} \quad \text{Answer}$$

$$l = np = 2(4) = 8 \text{ mm} \quad \text{Answer}$$

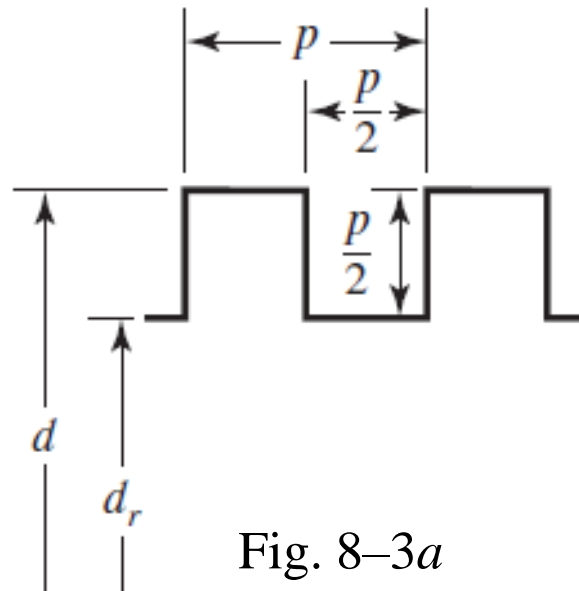


Fig. 8–3a

## Example - (continued)

(b) Using Eqs. (8–1) and (8–6), the torque required to turn the screw against the load is

$$\begin{aligned} T_R &= \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{l + \pi f d_m}{\pi d_m - f l} \right) + \frac{F f_c d_c}{2} \\ &= \frac{6.4(30)}{2} \left[ \frac{8 + \pi(0.08)(30)}{\pi(30) - 0.08(8)} \right] + \frac{6.4(0.08)40}{2} \\ &= 15.94 + 10.24 = 26.18 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} \quad \text{Answer} \end{aligned}$$

Using Eqs. (8–2) and (8–6), we find the load-lowering torque is

$$\begin{aligned} T_L &= \frac{F d_m}{2} \left( \frac{\pi f d_m - l}{\pi d_m + f l} \right) + \frac{F f_c d_c}{2} \\ &= \frac{6.4(30)}{2} \left[ \frac{\pi(0.08)30 - 8}{\pi(30) + 0.08(8)} \right] + \frac{6.4(0.08)(40)}{2} \\ &= -0.466 + 10.24 = 9.77 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} \quad \text{Answer} \end{aligned}$$

## Example - (continued)

(c) The overall efficiency in raising the load is

$$e = \frac{Fl}{2\pi T_R} = \frac{6.4(8)}{2\pi(26.18)} = 0.311 \quad \text{Answer}$$

## Example - (continued)

(d) The body shear stress  $\tau$  due to torsional moment  $T_R$  at the outside of the screw body is

$$\tau = \frac{16T_R}{\pi d_r^3} = \frac{16(26.18)(10^3)}{\pi(28^3)} = 6.07 \text{ MPa}$$

Answer

The axial nominal normal stress  $\sigma$  is

$$\sigma = -\frac{4F}{\pi d_r^2} = -\frac{4(6.4)10^3}{\pi(28^2)} = -10.39 \text{ MPa}$$

Answer

(e) The bearing stress  $\sigma_B$  is, with one thread carrying  $0.38F$ ,

$$\sigma_B = -\frac{2(0.38F)}{\pi d_m(1)p} = -\frac{2(0.38)(6.4)10^3}{\pi(30)(1)(4)} = -12.9 \text{ MPa}$$

Answer

(f) The thread-root bending stress  $\sigma_b$  with one thread carrying  $0.38F$  is

$$\sigma_b = \frac{6(0.38F)}{\pi d_r(1)p} = \frac{6(0.38)(6.4)10^3}{\pi(28)(1)4} = 41.5 \text{ MPa}$$

Answer

## Example - (continued)

(g) The transverse shear at the extreme of the root cross section due to bending is zero. However, there is a circumferential shear stress at the extreme of the root cross section of the thread as shown in part (d) of 6.07 MPa. The three-dimensional stresses, after Fig. 8–8, noting the  $y$  coordinate is into the page, are

$$\sigma_x = 41.5 \text{ MPa} \quad \tau_{xy} = 0$$

$$\sigma_y = -10.39 \text{ MPa} \quad \tau_{yz} = 6.07 \text{ MPa}$$

$$\sigma_z = 0 \quad \tau_{zx} = 0$$

For the von Mises stress, Eq. (5–14) of Sec. 5–5 can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma' &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{ (41.5 - 0)^2 + [0 - (-10.39)]^2 + (-10.39 - 41.5)^2 + 6(6.07)^2 \}^{1/2} \\ &= 48.7 \text{ MPa} \end{aligned}$$

Answer

## Power Screw – Assignment

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A single-thread power screw is 25-mm in diameter and has thread pitch of 5-mm. A vertical load on the screw reached 5 kN.

The coefficients of friction are 0.06 for the collar and 0.09 for the threads. The frictional diameter of the collar is 45 mm. For a square thread, find:

- a. Mean and root diameters
- b. Determine if the screw will self-lock.
- c. The torques require to raise the load and to lower the load
- d. The lifting efficiency of the screw
- e. The minimum yield strength of the screw material based on maximum distortion energy and a factor of safety of 5.0