

# Ordinary Differential Equations

A Quick Introduction

# Ordinary Differential Equations (ODEs)

- Crown jewel of Mechanical Engineering (and most other fields)
- Formal course in Differential Equations NOT REQUIRED for this unit!
- This class emphasizes:
  - Visualizing ODEs
  - Hand-sketching solutions to simple ODEs
  - Using built-in MATLAB solvers for complex ODEs
- Will only learn a few hand-solving techniques – save the rest for the math department!

# Motivation

- Many ME classes focus on *static analysis*: computing necessary forces, etc. when given static (time invariant) input loads
- Static analysis might be valid for your engineering problem, but many real problems involve time-varying inputs
- It's more useful to know the *entire time history*

The figure shown is a geared countershaft with an overhanging pinion at C. Select an angular-contact ball bearing from Table 11–2 for mounting at O and an 02-series cylindrical roller bearing from Table 11–3 for mounting at B. The force on gear A is  $F_A = 5600 \text{ lbf}$ , and the shaft is to run at a speed of 420 rev/min. Solution of the statics problem gives force of bearings against the shaft at O as  $\mathbf{R}_O = 2387\mathbf{j} + 467\mathbf{k} \text{ lbf}$ , and at B as  $\mathbf{R}_B = 316\mathbf{j} - 1615\mathbf{k} \text{ lbf}$ . Specify the bearings required, using an application factor of 1.2, a desired life of 40 kh, and a combined reliability goal of 0.95, assuming distribution data from manufacturer 2 in Table 11–6.

Problem 11–32 Dimensions in inches.

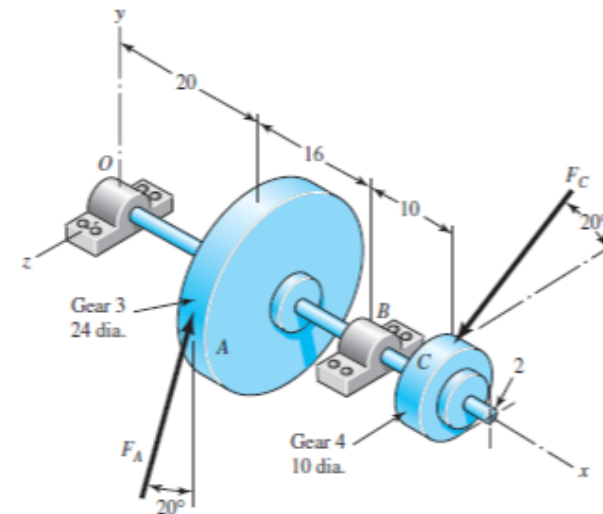


Table 11–2 Dimensions and Load Ratings for Single-Row 02-Series Deep-Groove and Angular-Contact Ball Bearings

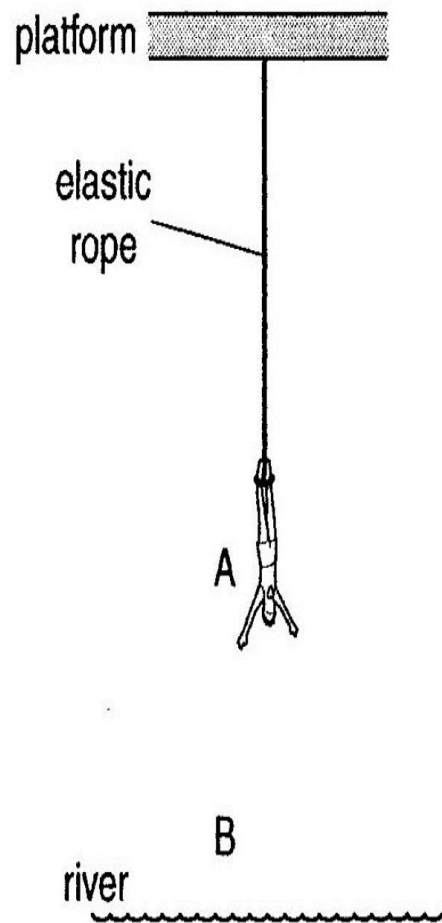
# Motivation

- We study ODEs because many of the fundamental laws in engineering (conservation, continuity, etc.) are expressed as rates of change
- Engineering problems are inherently modeled as ODEs and we must solve them to find our desired quantity (such as position vs. time,  $x(t)$ )

Law	Equation	Physical Area
Fourier's law	$q = -k \frac{dT}{dx}$	Heat conduction
Fick's law	$J = -D \frac{dc}{dx}$	Mass diffusion
Darcy's law	$q = -k \frac{dh}{dx}$	Flow through porous media
Ohm's law	$J = -\sigma \frac{dV}{dx}$	Current flow
Newton's viscosity law	$\tau = \mu \frac{du}{dx}$	Fluids
Hooke's law	$\sigma = E \frac{\Delta L}{L}$	Elasticity

These are some common rate equations you might stumble upon in ME. All of them have derivatives!

# Modeling Process



Physical Law

ODE

Solution

$$\Sigma F = ma$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = g - \frac{c_d}{m} v^2$$

$$v(t) = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{c_d}} \tanh\left(\sqrt{\frac{gc_d}{m}} t\right)$$

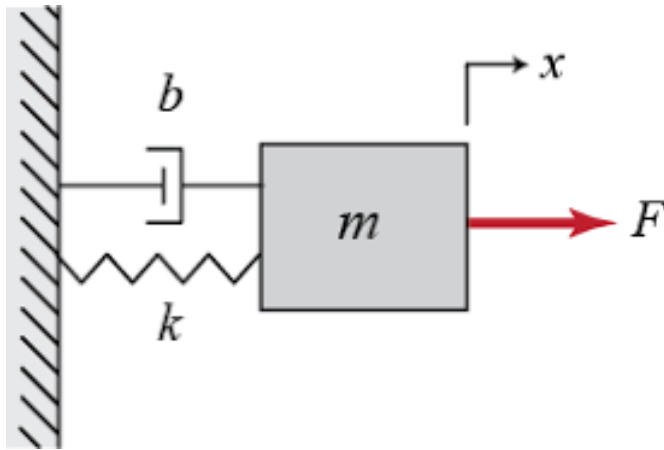
(Analytical)

$$v_{i+1} = v_i + \left(g - \frac{c_d}{m} v^2\right) \Delta t$$

(Numerical)

# Definitions

- *Order*: highest derivative in the ODE.



Mass-spring-damper system.  
You'll see this frequently in this  
class + your upper-level classes.

$$m \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = F(t)$$

2<sup>nd</sup> order system because the highest  
derivative is a 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative

$$m\ddot{x} + b\dot{x} + kx = F(t)$$

Equivalent system representation  
using *dot notation*:

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = \ddot{x}, \frac{dx}{dt} = \dot{x}$$