

**LESSON 5: MECHANICS FOR  
MOTORS AND GENERATORS**

ET 332a  
Dc Motors, Generators and Energy Conversion  
Devices

## Learning Objectives

After this presentation you will be able to:

- Explain how torque and speed is represented.
- Convert power, torque and speed units from SI to English Units
- Perform simple mechanical calculations.
- Identify common mechanical loads for electrical machines.

## SPEED DEFINITIONS AND UNIT CONVERSIONS

Angular speed (radians/second)

rad/sec used in calculations  $\omega = \frac{d\theta}{dt}$

$\omega$  = angular speed (radians/sec)  
 $\theta$  = arc length (radians)

Standard for motors and generators  
 Revolutions per minute (RPM)

Conversions

$$n = \left(\frac{60}{2\pi}\right) \cdot \omega$$

rad/sec to RPM

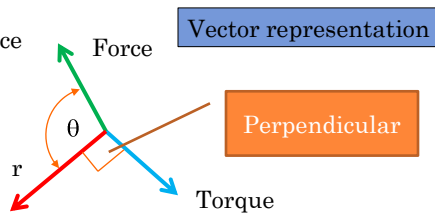
$$\omega = \left(\frac{2\pi}{60}\right) \cdot n$$

RPM to rad/sec

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## FORCE AND TORQUE

Torque – "twisting force"  
 Units SI (N·m)  
 English (ft·lb)



Lever arm

Definitions

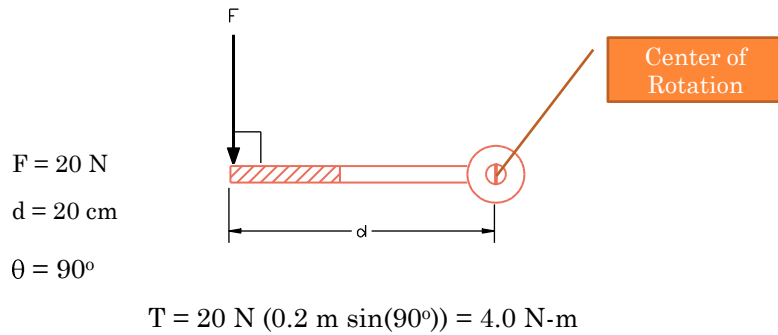
Torque = (applied force) · (perpendicular distance)

$$T = F \cdot (r \cdot \sin(\theta))$$

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## FORCE AND TORQUE EXAMPLE

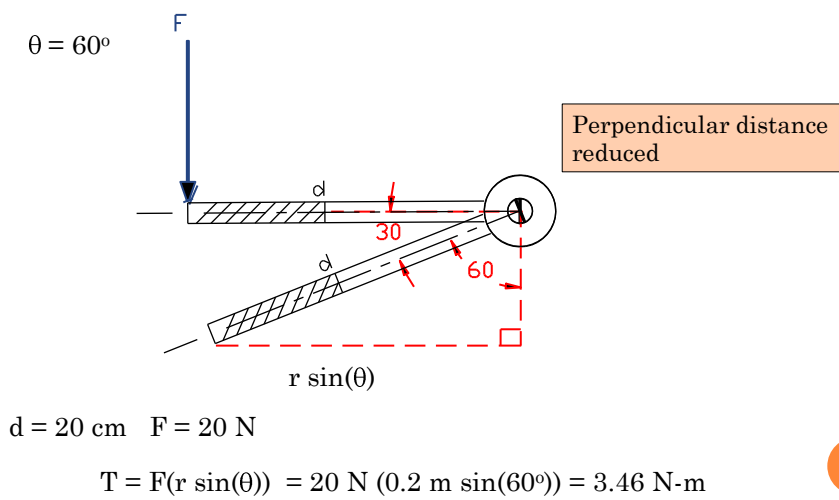
Example: torque wrench



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## FORCE AND TORQUE EXAMPLE

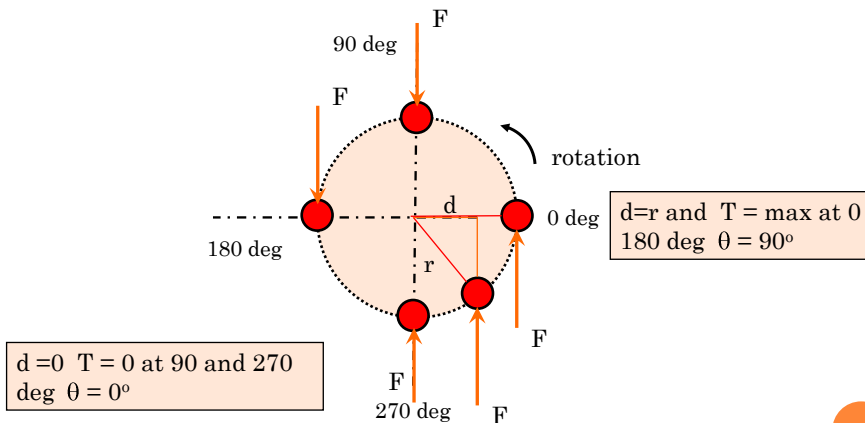
Example: Non-perpendicular distance



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## CIRCULAR MOTION AND TORQUE

Torque changes with position in circular motion

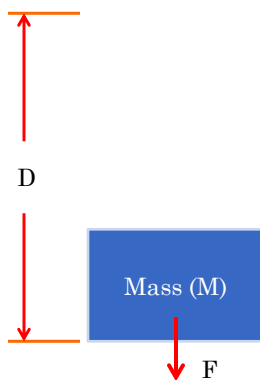


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## WORK AND POWER

Energy dissipates and work occurs when a force acts on a mass

Lifting a weight requires work and dissipates energy



Work = (Force)(Distance) Linear Systems

$$W \text{ (Joules)} = F \text{ (Newtons)} \times D \text{ (Meters)}$$

Power is how fast work is done

Rate of energy consumption

$$\text{Power} = \text{Work} / \text{Time}$$

$$P \text{ (Watts)} = W \text{ (Joules)} / t \text{ (seconds)}$$

$$\text{Force} = (\text{Mass})(\text{Acceleration of gravity}) = \text{Weight}$$

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## WORK AND POWER IN ROTATING SYSTEMS

Work in rotating system

$$W = T \cdot \theta$$

T = torque (N-m)

$\theta$  = angular distance (m)

Power in rotating system

$$P = T \cdot \omega$$

P = power (Watts, W)

T = torque (N-m)

$\omega$  = angular speed (rad/sec)

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## ENGLISH-SI UNIT CONVERSIONS

### English Units

Power = Horsepower (HP)

Torque = (lb-ft)



### SI Units

Power = Watts or Kilowatts (W, kW)

Torque = Newton-Meters (N-m)

Mechanical Power Conversion- Watts to Hp

Conversion factor: 1 hp = 746 watts

$$P(\text{hp}) = \frac{P(\text{W})}{746 \text{ W/hp}} \quad \text{Watts to hp}$$

$$P(\text{W}) = P(\text{hp}) \cdot 746 \text{ W/hp} \quad \text{hp to Watts}$$

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## ENGLISH-SI UNIT CONVERSIONS

Power (HP) to Torque (lb-ft) in English Units

$$T = \frac{5252 \cdot P}{n}$$

Where: T = torque in lb-ft  
P = power in horsepower (hp)  
n = speed in rpm

Torque with mixed SI and English units

$$T = \frac{7.04 \cdot P}{n}$$

Where: T = torque in lb-ft  
P = power in Watts  
n = speed in rpm

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## ENGLISH-SI UNIT CONVERSIONS

Torque in SI Units. Remember the definition of power...

$$P = T \cdot \omega$$

$$T = \frac{P}{\omega}$$

T = torque (N-m)  
P = Watts (W)  
 $\omega$  = angular speed (radians/s)

Solve torque equations for speed

English  
Units

$$n = \frac{P}{5252 \cdot T}$$

SI  
Units

$$\omega = \frac{P}{T}$$

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## UNIT CONVERSION EXAMPLES

**Example 1:** A motor develops 25 Hp at the shaft at a speed of 1750 rpm. Find the torque (N-m) developed and the power output in Watts

Make power unit conversion. HP=25 hp

$$P = 746 \text{ W/hp} \cdot \text{HP} = 746 \text{ W/hp} \cdot 25 \text{ hp} = 18,650 \text{ W}$$

Find torque by converting n in rpm to  $\omega$  in radians /second

$$\omega = \left( \frac{2\pi}{60} \right) \cdot 1750 \text{ rpm} = 183.17 \text{ rad/s}$$

$$T = \frac{P}{\omega} = \frac{18,650 \text{ W}}{183.17 \text{ rad/s}} = 101.8 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

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## UNIT CONVERSION EXAMPLES

**Example 2:** A generator delivers 50 kW of power at 170 rad/s. What horsepower and torque (ft-lb) should the drive engine have.

Convert power in watts to hp. Remember 50 kW = 50,000 W

$$\text{HP} = \frac{P}{746 \text{ W/hp}} = \frac{50,000 \text{ W}}{746 \text{ W/hp}} = 67 \text{ hp}$$

$$T = \frac{7.04 \cdot 50,000 \text{ W}}{1624.2 \text{ rpm}} = 216.7 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft}$$

To find torque in lb-ft, convert the speed into rpm

$$T = \frac{5252 \cdot 67 \text{ hp}}{1624.7 \text{ rpm}} = 216.7 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft}$$

$$n = \omega \cdot \left( \frac{60}{2\pi} \right) = 170 \text{ rad/s} \cdot \left( \frac{60}{2\pi} \right) = 1624.2 \text{ rpm}$$

Now you can find torque with these two equations

$$T = \frac{7.04 \cdot P}{n}$$

or

$$T = \frac{5252 \cdot P}{n}$$

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## MECHANICS FOR MOTORS AND GENERATORS

Power is conserved in a lossless mechanical system.  
(Need consistent units)

In a rotational motion system

$$P = T \cdot \omega$$

In a linear motion system

$$P = F \cdot v$$

Where: F = force in Newtons (N)  
v = velocity in meters/second (m/s)  
T = torque in N-m  
 $\omega$  = angular velocity (rad/s)

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Since power is conserved  $T \cdot \omega = F \cdot v$

## MECHANICS FOR MOTORS AND GENERATORS

**Example 3:** A small electric locomotive develops 620 N-m of torque at 900 rpm as it moves at a speed of 15 mph. Determine the power, in horsepower, and Watts this requires. Also compute the force opposing the locomotive.

Compute rotational power

$$P = T \cdot \omega = 620 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m} \cdot \left( \frac{2\pi}{60} \right) \cdot (900 \text{ rpm})$$

$$P = 58,434 \text{ W}$$

Convert to horsepower

$$\text{HP} = P \cdot \left( \frac{1 \text{ hp}}{746 \text{ W}} \right) = 58,434 \text{ W} \cdot \left( \frac{1 \text{ hp}}{746 \text{ W}} \right) = 78.3 \text{ hp}$$

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## MECHANICS FOR MOTORS AND GENERATORS

### Example 3 continued

Since power is conserved  $P = T \cdot \omega = F \cdot v$

Convert velocity to m/s

$$v = (15 \cancel{\text{mi/hr}}) \cdot \left( \frac{1609 \text{ m}}{1 \cancel{\text{mi}}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{1 \cancel{\text{hr}}}{3600 \text{ s}} \right) = 6.704 \text{ m/s}$$

From previous calculations  $P = 58,434 \text{ W}$

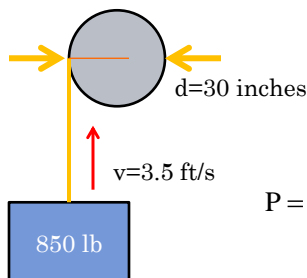
$$P = F \cdot v$$

$$F = \frac{P}{v} = \frac{58,434 \text{ W}}{6.704 \text{ m/s}} = \frac{58,434 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m/s}}{6.704 \text{ m/s}} = \boxed{8716.3 \text{ N}}$$

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## MECHANICS FOR MOTORS AND GENERATORS

**Example 4:** An electric hoist lifts an 850 lb (force) at a speed of 3.5 ft/sec. The hoist drum has a diameter of 30 inches. Calculate the torque (lb-ft) and the speed of the motor performing this lift. What horsepower must the motor develop to make this lift?



Compute translational power

$$P = F \cdot v = (850 \text{ lb}) (3.5 \text{ ft/s}) = 2975 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft/s}$$

Convert this to horsepower using

$$1 \text{ hp} = 550 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft/s}$$

$$P = (2975 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft/s}) \cdot \left( \frac{1 \text{ hp}}{550 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft/s}} \right) = \boxed{5.409 \text{ hp}}$$

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## MECHANICS FOR MOTORS AND GENERATORS

### Example 4 continued

Remember the torque definition  $T = F \cdot d$

Where  $d$  is distance to center of rotation (half the diameter)

$$d = \frac{30 \text{ in}}{2} = 15 \text{ in}$$

$$T = 650 \text{ lb} \cdot \left( \frac{15 \text{ in}}{12 \text{ in/ft}} \right) = 1062.5 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft}$$

Find the speed from  $T = \frac{5252 \cdot P}{n}$  Solve this for  $n$ , speed in rpm

$$\frac{T}{5252 \cdot P} = \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow \frac{5252 \cdot P}{T} = n$$

$$\frac{5252 \cdot 6.409 \text{ hp}}{1062.5 \text{ lb} \cdot \text{ft}} = n$$

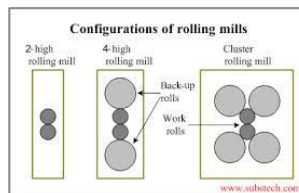
$$26.74 \text{ rpm} = n$$

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## MECHANICAL LOADS FOR MOTORS

**Constant Speed** - motor must maintain constant speed over wide range of torque loading.

Examples: machine tools (lathes, Mills etc) rolling mills (steel production)



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## MECHANICAL LOADS FOR MOTORS

**Constant Torque** - motor works against constant force. Weight of load does not change.

Examples: Hoisting, conveyors



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## MECHANICAL LOADS FOR MOTORS

**Constant Power** - Mechanical characteristic of the load change (size, weight). Torque and speed change

Example: Winding operations (cable, wire)



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**END LESSON 5: MECHANICS FOR  
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