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# THEORY OF GEARS

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# Outline

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- ❖ Gear Theory

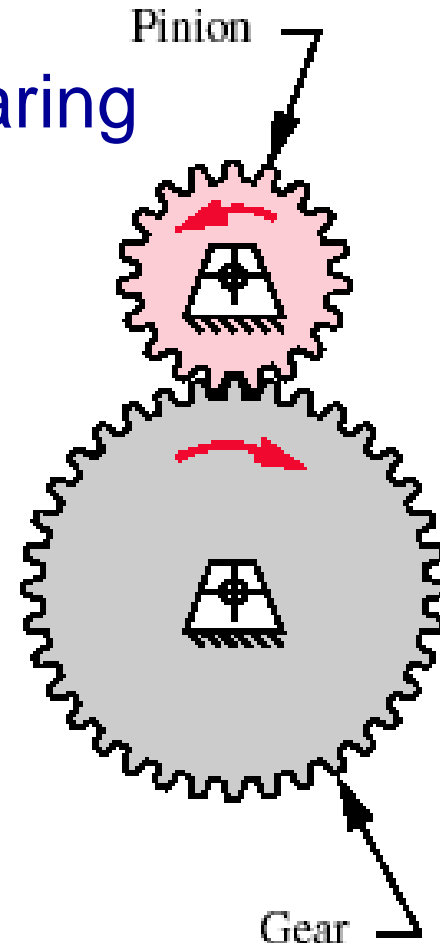
- Fundamental Law of Gearing
- Involute profile

- ❖ Nomenclature

- ❖ Gear Trains

- ❖ Loading

- ❖ Stresses



# Fundamental Law of Gearing

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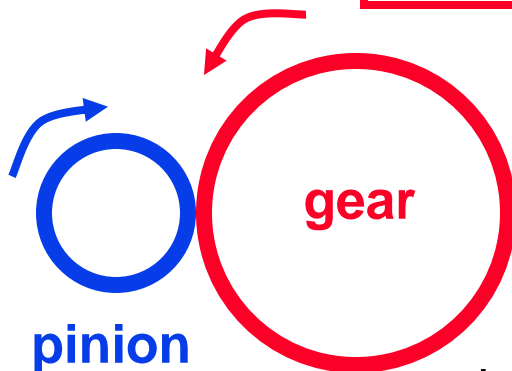
functionally, a gear set is a device to exchange torque for velocity

$$P = T\omega$$

*the angular velocity ratio of the gears of a gear set must remain constant throughout the mesh*

*What gear tooth shape can do this?*

[click here!](#)



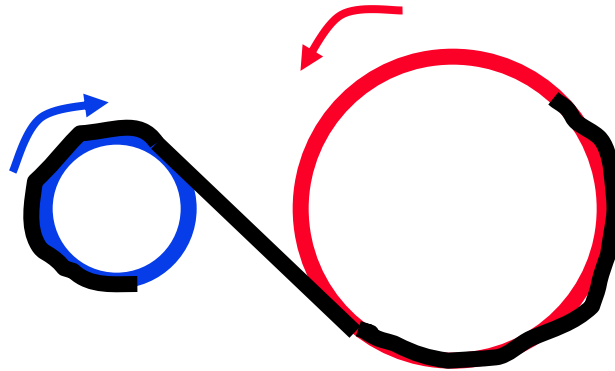
$$m_V = \frac{\omega_{out}}{\omega_{in}} = \frac{r_{out}}{r_{in}}$$

pitch circle, pitch diameter  $d$ , pitch point

# Towards the Involute Profile

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A belt connecting the two cylinders



line of action, pressure angle  $\phi$

# The Involute Profile

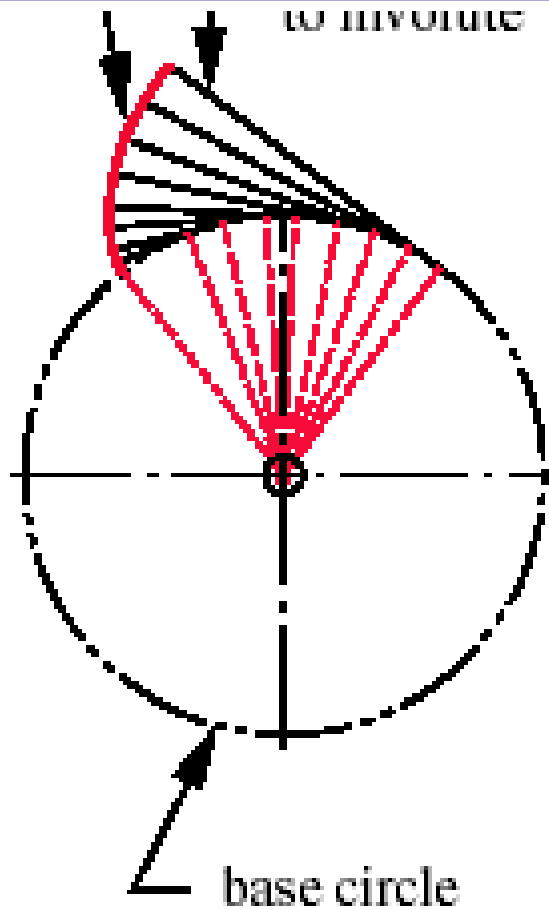
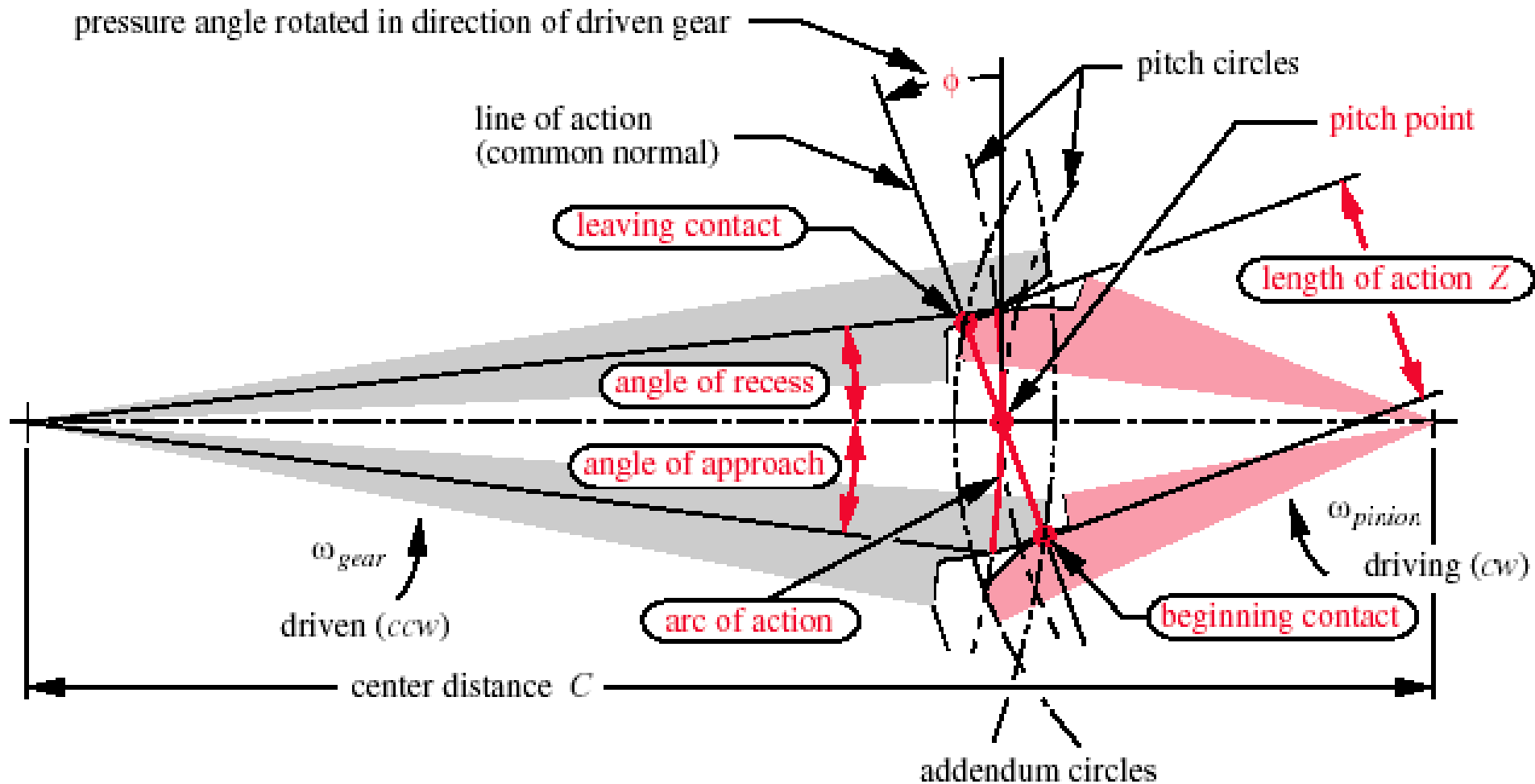


FIGURE 11-3

# Profile of the Involute Profile



*pressure angle, line of action, length of action, addendum*

# Involute in Action

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video from <http://www.howstuffworks.com>

# Nomenclature

$$p_c = \frac{\pi d}{N}$$

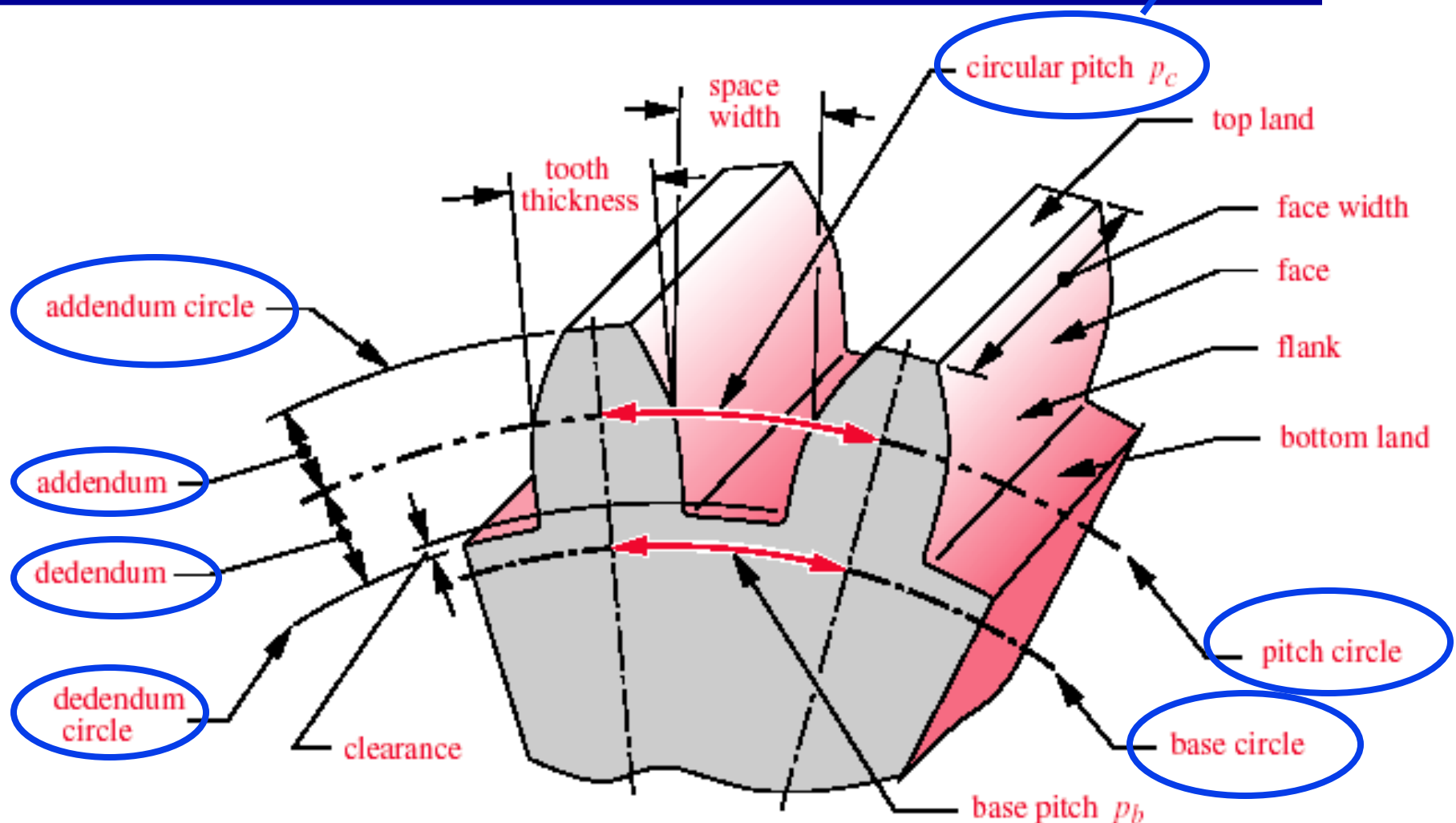


Figure 11-8



# Pitches, Etc.

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**circular pitch (mm, in.)**  $p_c = \frac{\pi d}{N}$

**base pitch (mm, in.)**  $p_b = p_c \cos \phi$

**diametral pitch (teeth/in.)**  $p_d = \frac{N}{d}$

**module (mm/teeth)**  $m = \frac{d}{N}$

# Velocity Ratio

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*pitches must be equal for mating gears, therefore*

$$m_V = \pm \frac{r_{out}}{r_{in}} = \pm \frac{N_{out}}{N_{in}}$$

# Contact Ratio

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*average number of teeth in contact at any one time*  
=  
*length of action divided by the base pitch, or,*

$$m_p = \frac{p_d Z}{\pi \cos \phi}$$

$$Z = \sqrt{(r_p + a_p)^2 - (r_p \cos \phi)^2} + \sqrt{(r_g + a_g)^2 - (r_g \cos \phi)^2} - C \sin \phi$$

where  $C$ =center distance= $(N_g + N_p) \cdot 1/p_d \cdot 1/2$

# Minimum # of Teeth

*minimum # of teeth to avoid undercutting with gear and rack*

$$N_{\min} = \frac{2}{\sin^2 \phi}$$

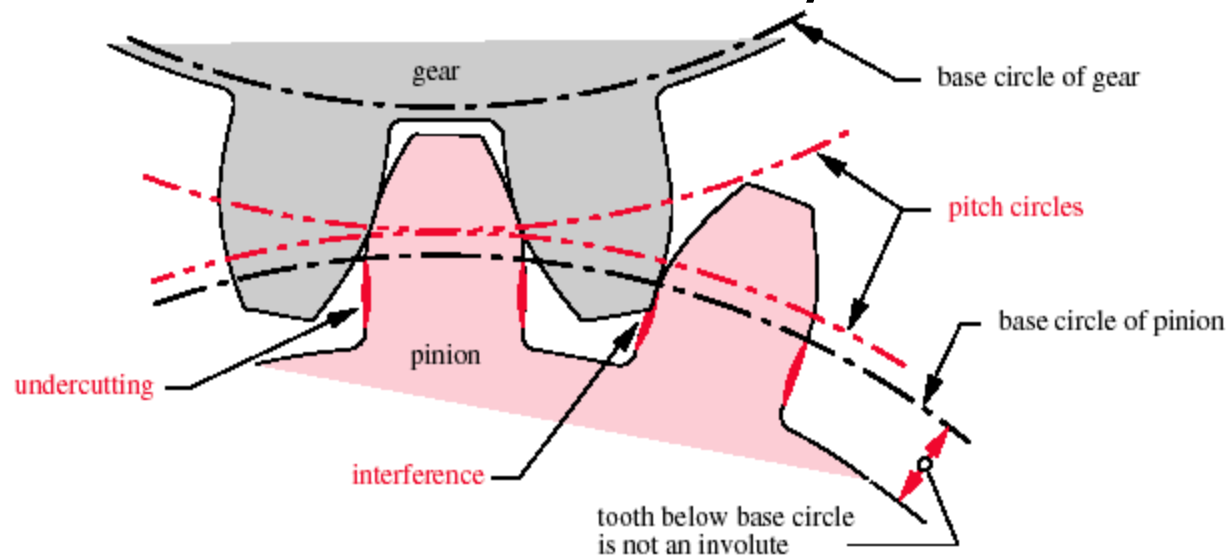
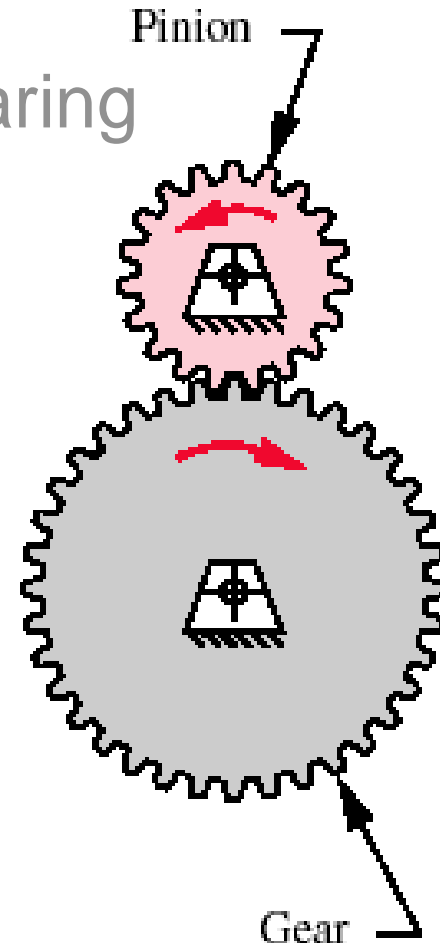


FIGURE 11-11

# Outline

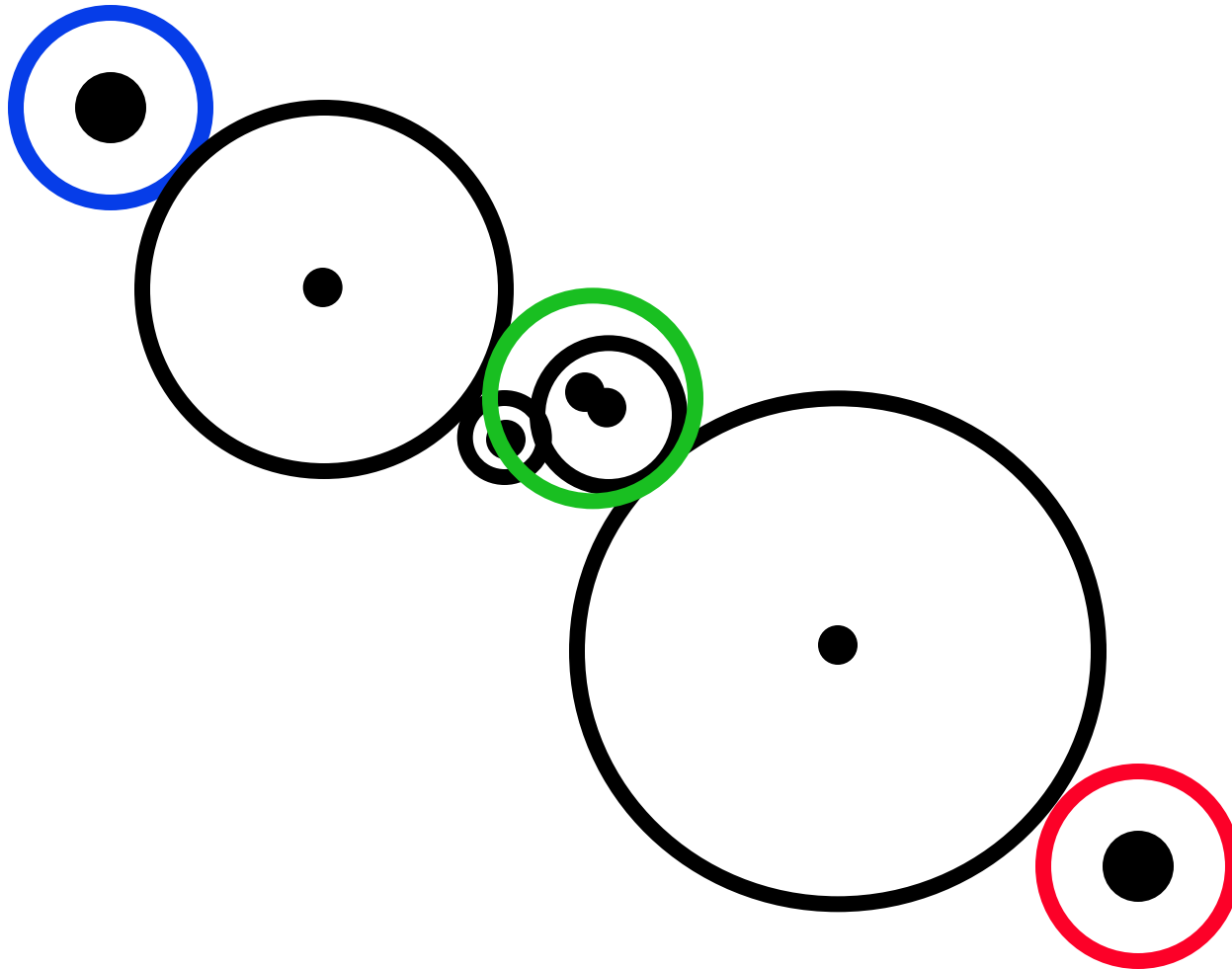
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- ❖ Gear Theory
  - Fundamental Law of Gearing
  - Involute profile
- ❖ Nomenclature
- ❖ Gear Trains
- ❖ Loading
- ❖ Stresses



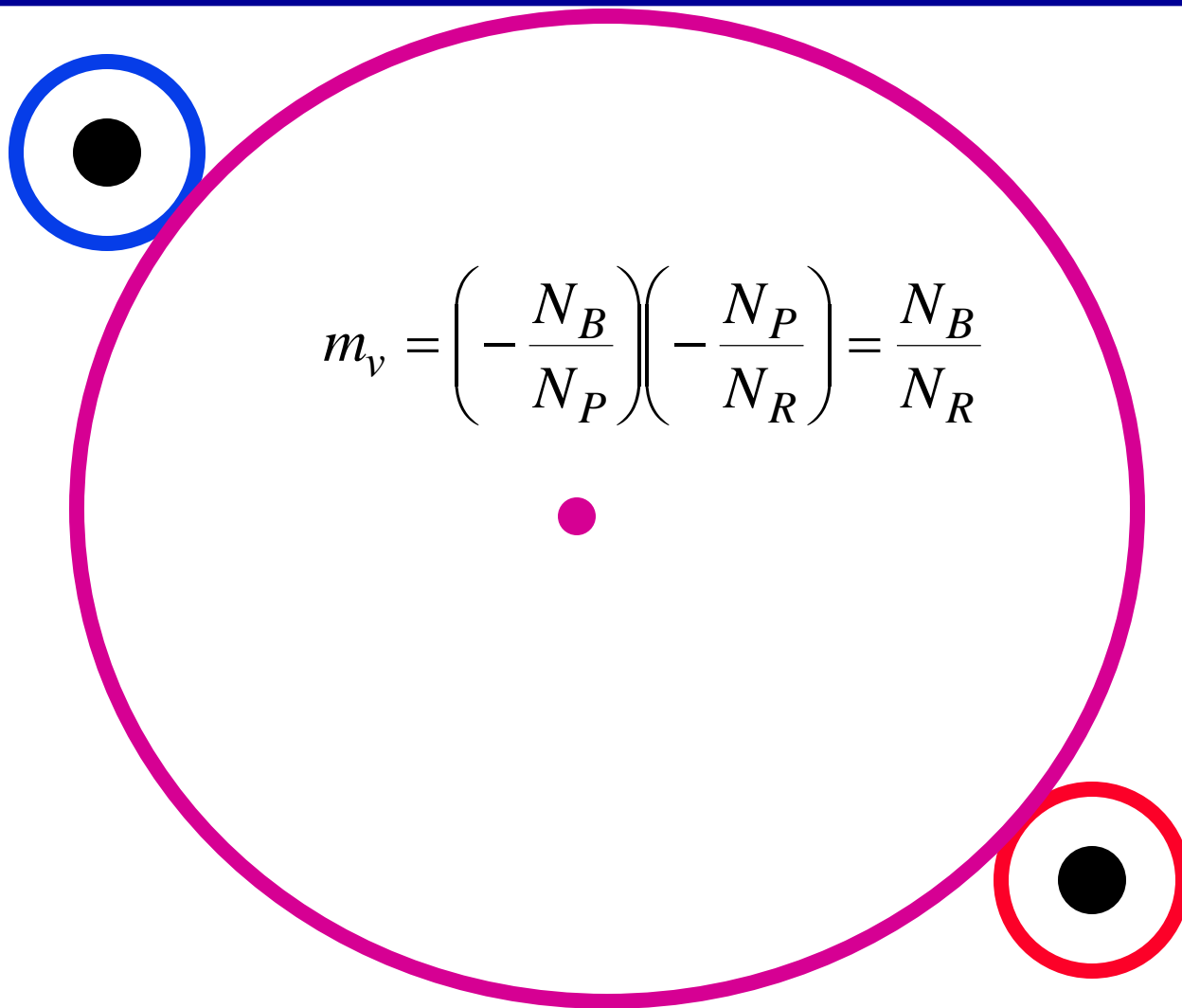
# Simple Gear Trains

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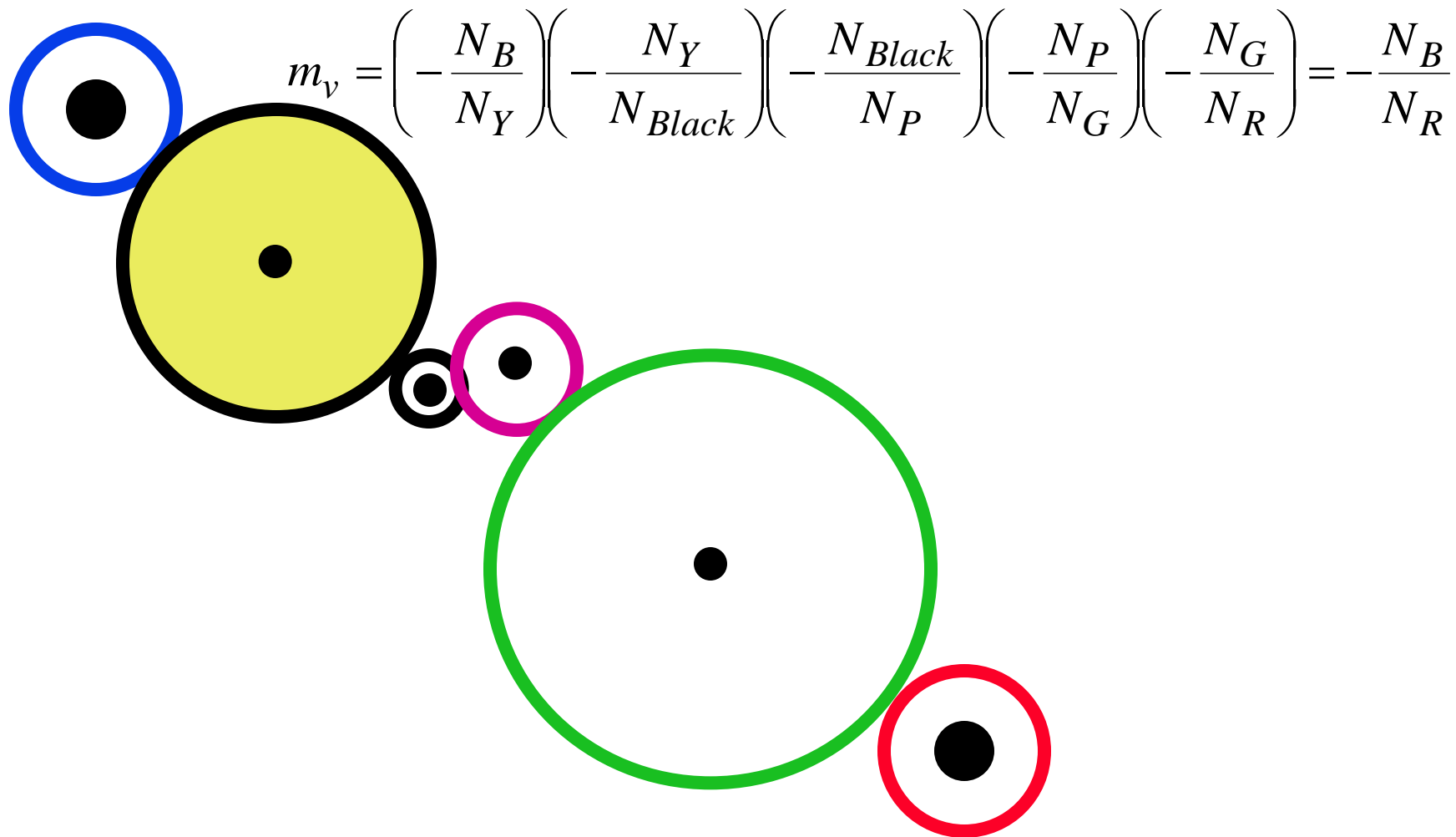
# Simple Gear Train

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$$m_v = \left( -\frac{N_B}{N_P} \right) \left( -\frac{N_P}{N_R} \right) = \frac{N_B}{N_R}$$

---



A diagram of a planetary system. A large yellow star is at the top left. Five planets are shown: a blue ringed planet at the top left, a small black ringed planet near the star, a pink ringed planet, a large green ringed planet, and a red ringed planet at the bottom right. Each planet has a black dot in the center representing its core.

$$m_v = \left( -\frac{N_B}{N_Y} \right) \left( -\frac{N_Y}{N_{Black}} \right) \left( -\frac{N_{Black}}{N_P} \right) \left( -\frac{N_P}{N_G} \right) \left( -\frac{N_G}{N_R} \right) = -\frac{N_B}{N_R}$$

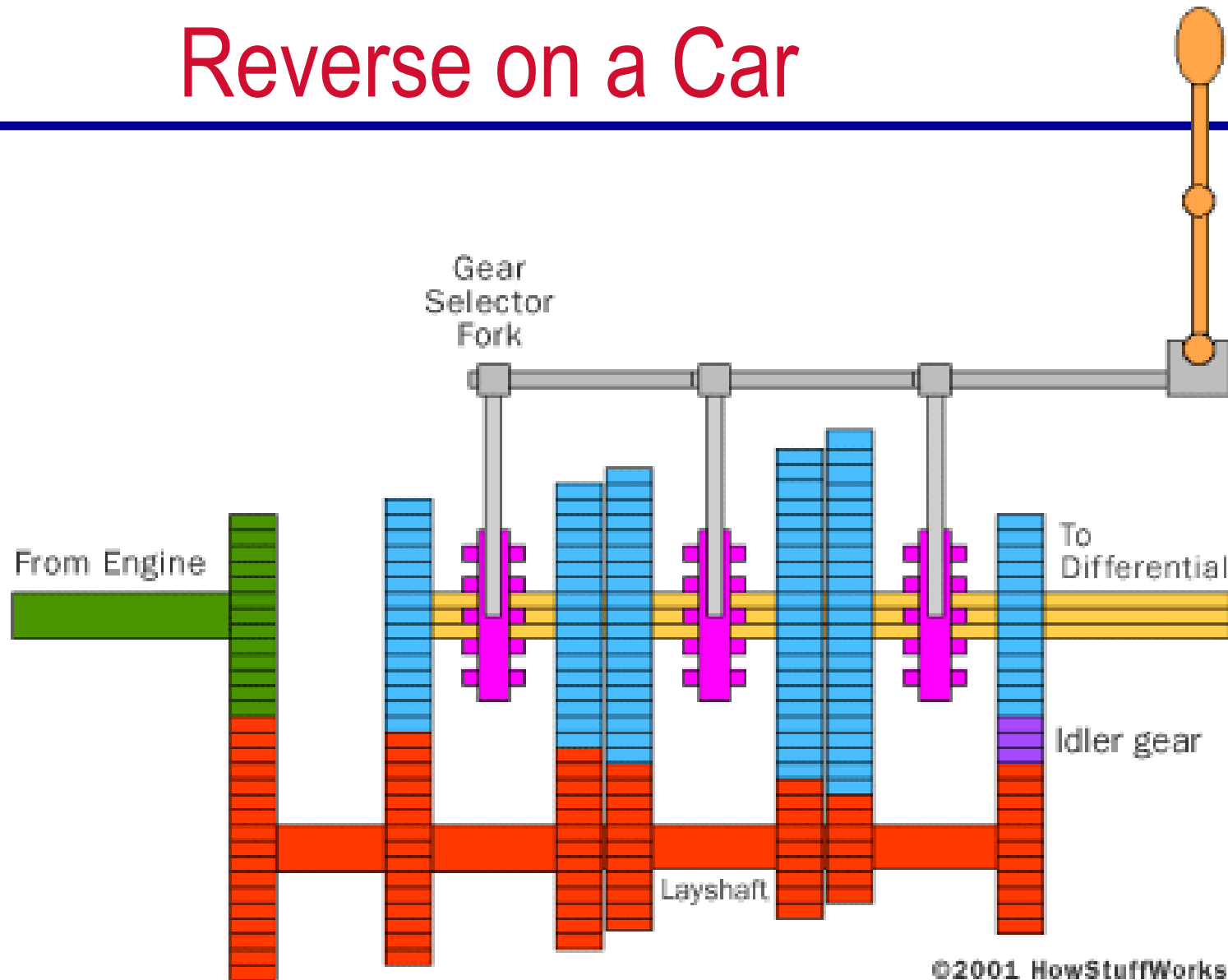


# Simple Gear Train

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- ❖ Fine for transmitting torque between
  - shafts in close proximity
  - when  $m_v$  does not need to be too large
- ❖ Use third gear (“idler”) only for directional reasons (not for gear reduction)

# Reverse on a Car



# Actual Manual Transmission

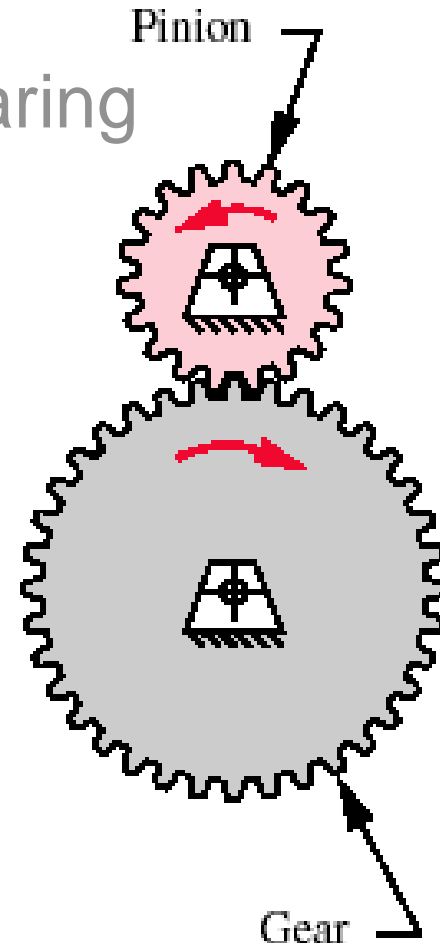
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# Outline

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- ❖ Gear Theory
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- ❖ Stresses



# Loading of Gears

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$W_t$ = tangential (transmitted) load

$W_r$ = radial load

$W$ = total load

$$W_t = \frac{T_p}{r_p} = \frac{2T_p}{d_p}$$

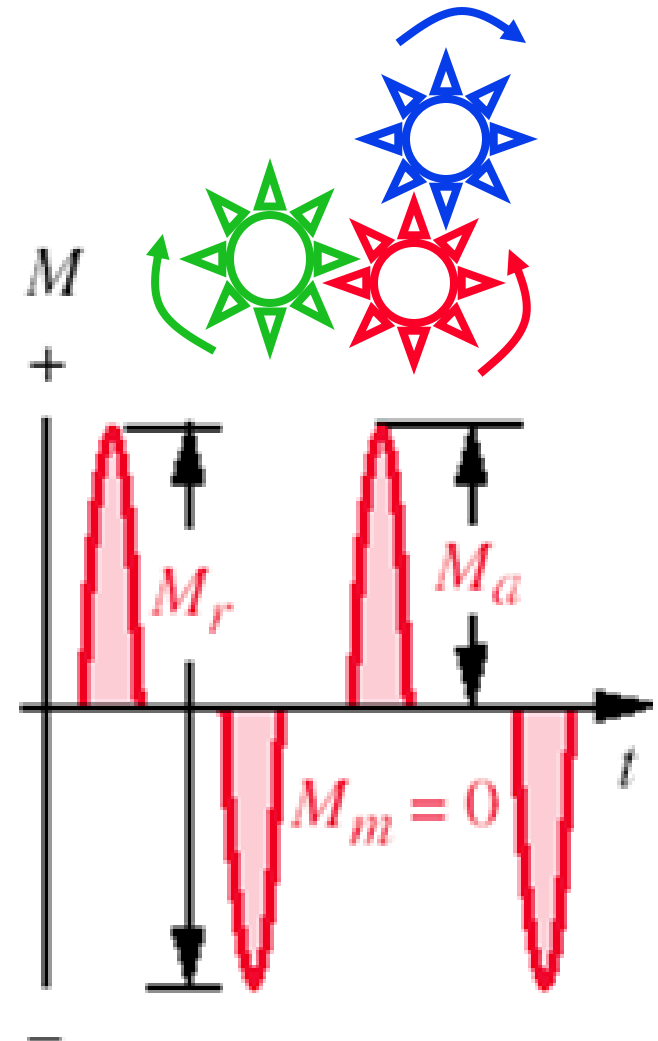
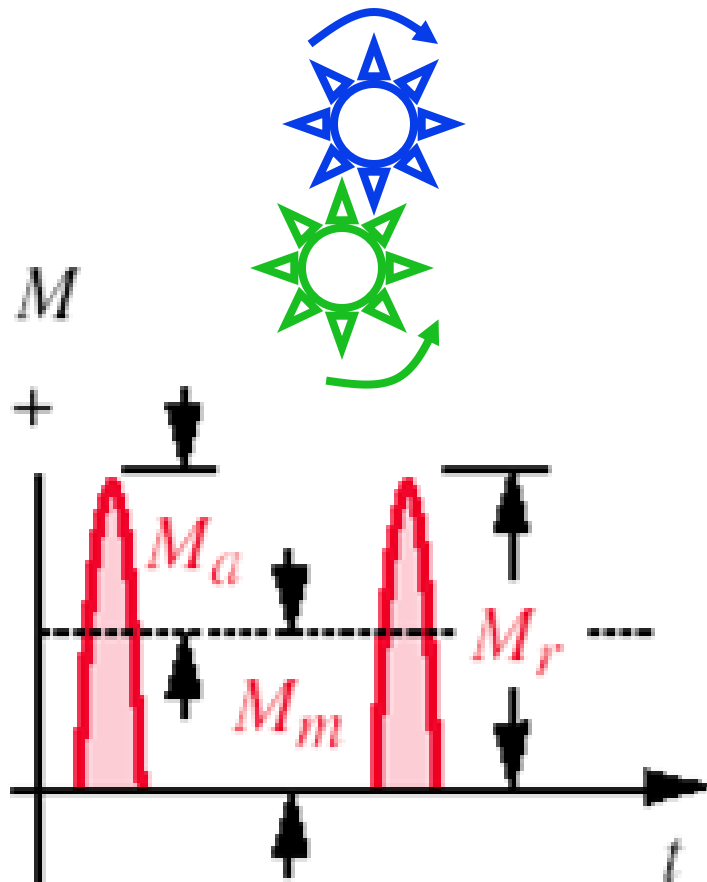
$$W_r = W_t \tan \phi$$

$$W = \frac{W_t}{\cos \phi}$$

**Because  $T_p$  is constant, should  $W_t$  be static for a tooth?**

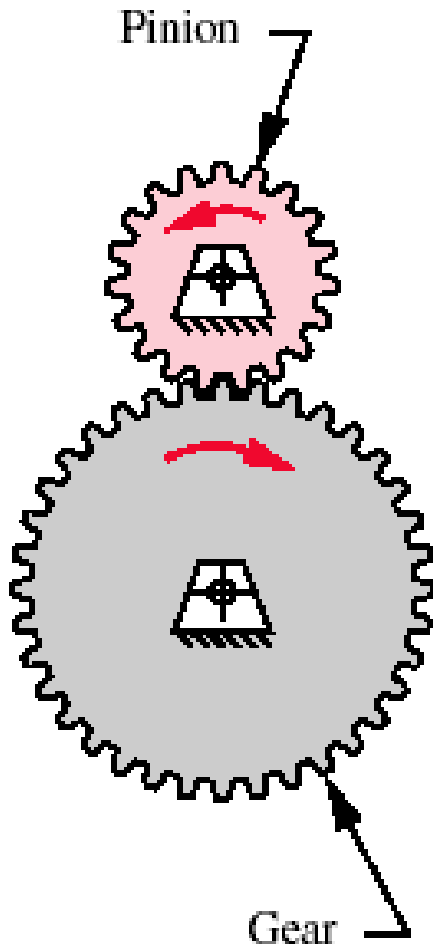
(see board for figure or page 711 in book)

# Gear vs. Idler



# Loading Example

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## Given:

- pinion is driving gear with 50hp at 1500 rpm
- $N_p=20$
- $m_v=2$  (a.k.a.,  $m_g=2$ )
- $p_d=4$  /in.
- $\phi=20$  degrees

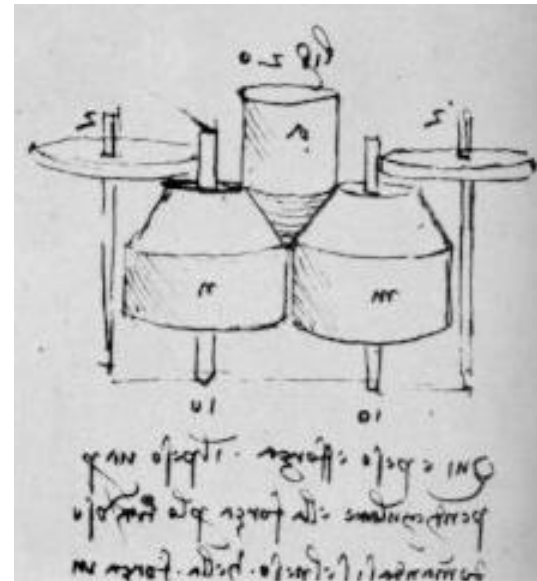
## Find:

Loading and effects of inputs on loading

# Outline

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- ❖ Gear Theory
  - Fundamental Law of Gearing
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- ❖ Nomenclature
- ❖ Gear Trains
- ❖ Loading
- ❖ Stresses





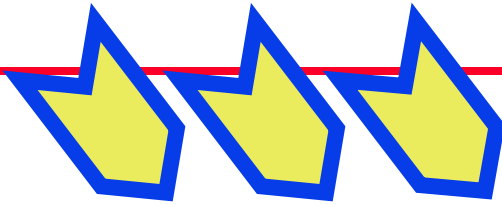
# Gear Failure

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## Fatigue Loading

from bending of teeth

- infinite life possible
- failure can be sudden



## Surface Failure

from contact b/n of teeth

- infinite life not possible
- failure is gradual

Lewis, 1892, first formulation of gear tooth fatigue failure

$$\sigma_b = \frac{W_t \cdot p_d}{F \cdot Y}$$

# AGMA Gear Stress Formula

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many assumptions: see page 714...

...including that the contact ratio  $1 < m_p < 2$

$$\sigma_b = \frac{W_t \cdot p_d}{F \cdot J} \cdot \frac{K_a K_m}{K_v} K_s K_B K_I$$

---

J	$K_v$	$K_m$	$K_a$	$K_s$	$K_B$	$K_I$
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# Bending Strength Geometry Factor

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❖ from tables on pgs. 716-718

❖ Inputs

- pinion or gear
- number of teeth
- pressure angle
- long-addendum or full-depth
- tip loading or HPSTC

---

**J**

$K_v$

$K_m$

$K_a$

$K_s$

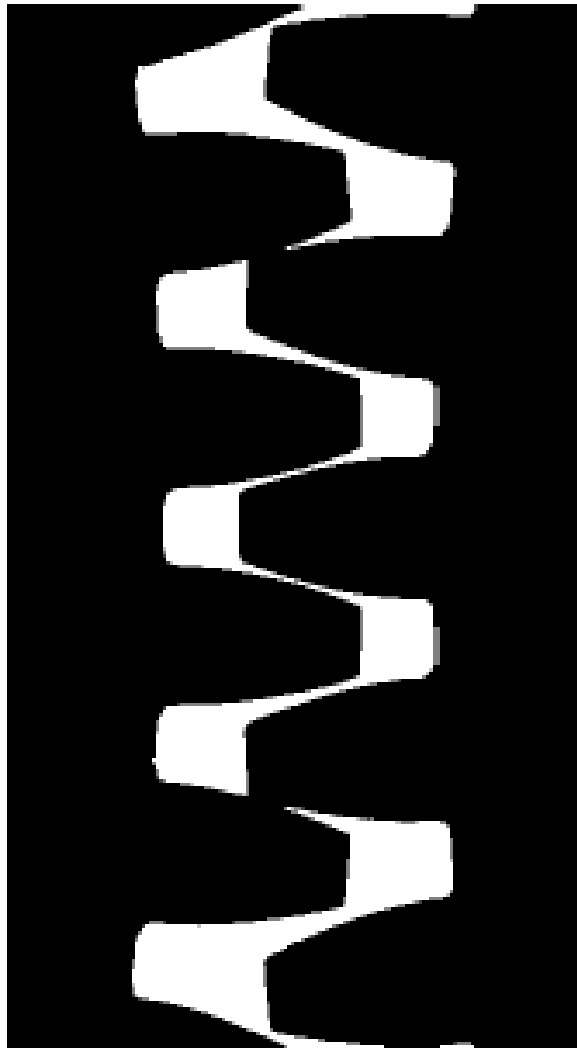
$K_B$

$K_I$

---

# Tip vs. HPSCT Loading

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# Finding J for the Example

- pinion is driving gear with 50hp at 1500 rpm
- $N_p=20$ ,  $N_g=40$
- $p_d=4$  /in.
- $\phi=20$  degrees
- $W_t=420$  lb.

$$J_p=0.34, J_g=0.38$$

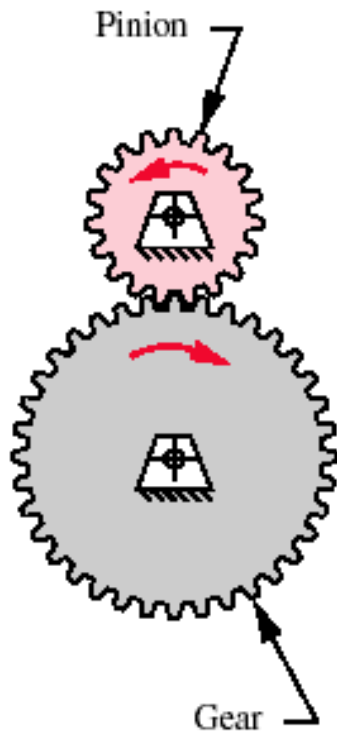


Table 11-9 AGMA Bending Geometry Factor J for 20°, Full-Depth Teeth


Gear teeth	Pinion teeth									
	12		14		17		21		26	
	P	G	P	G	P	G	P	G	P	G
12	U	U								
14	U	U	U	U						
17	U	U	U	U	U	U				
21	U	U	U	U	U	U	0.33	0.33		
26	U	U	U	U	U	U	0.33	0.35	0.35	0.35
35	U	U	U	U	U	U	0.34	0.37	0.36	0.38
55	U	U	U	U	U	U	0.34	0.40	0.37	0.41
135	U	U	U	U	U	U	0.35	0.43	0.38	0.44

# Dynamic (Velocity) Factor

to account for tooth-tooth impacts and resulting vibration loads

from Figure 11-22 or from Equations 11.16-11.18 (pages 718-719)

## Inputs needed:

- Quality Index (Table 11-7) 
- Pitch-line Velocity

$$V_t = (\text{radius})(\text{angular speed in radians})$$

**Table 11-7**

Recommended Gear  
Quality Numbers for  
Pitch Line Velocity

Pitch Velocity	$Q_v$
0–800 fpm	6–8
800–2000 fpm	8–10
2000–4000 fpm	10–12
Over 4000 fpm	12–14

J

$K_v$

$K_m$

$K_a$

$K_s$

$K_B$

$K_I$

# Dynamic Factor

---

$$B = \frac{(12 - Q_v)^{2/3}}{4} \text{ for } 6 \leq Q_v \leq 11$$

$$A = 50 + 56(1 - B)$$

$$K_v = \left( \frac{A}{A + \sqrt{V_t}} \right)^B \text{ (US)} \quad K_v = \left( \frac{A}{A + \sqrt{200V_t}} \right)^B \text{ (SI)}$$

$$V_{t,\max} = (A + Q_v - 3)^2$$

---

J

**$K_v$**

$K_m$

$K_a$

$K_s$

$K_B$

$K_I$

---

# Determining $K_v$ for the Example

$$V_t = (1500 \text{ rev/min})(2.5 \text{ in})(1 \text{ ft}/12 \text{ in})(2\pi \text{ rad}/1 \text{ rev}) = 1964 \text{ ft/min}$$

*(well below  $V_{t,max}$ )*

therefore,  $Q_v = 10$

$$B = \frac{(12 - 10)^{2/3}}{4} = 0.397$$

$$A = 50 + 56(1 - 0.397) = 83.8$$

$$K_v = \left( \frac{83.8}{83.8 + \sqrt{1964}} \right)^{0.397} = 0.845$$

**Table 11-7**

Recommended Gear  
Quality Numbers for  
Pitch Line Velocity

Pitch Velocity	$Q_v$
0–800 fpm	6–8
800–2000 fpm	8–10
2000–4000 fpm	10–12
Over 4000 fpm	12–14



# Load Distribution Factor $K_m$

to account for distribution of load across face

**Table 11-16**

Load Distribution  
Factors  $K_m$

Face Width in (mm)		$K_m$
<2	(50)	1.6
6	(150)	1.7
9	(250)	1.8
≥20	(500)	2.0

$8/p_d < F < 16/p_d$

can use  $12/p_d$  as a starting point

J

$K_v$

$K_m$

$K_a$

$K_s$

$K_B$

$K_I$

# $K_m$ for the Example

---

$$F=12/p_d=3 \text{ in.}$$

**Table 11-16**

Load Distribution  
Factors  $K_m$

Face Width in (mm)		$K_m$
<2	(50)	1.6
6	(150)	1.7
9	(250)	1.8
≥20	(500)	2.0

$$K_m=1.63$$

# Application Factor, $K_a$

to account for non-uniform transmitted loads

Table 11-17 Application Factors  $K_a$

Driving Machine	Driven Machine		
	Uniform	Moderate Shock	Heavy Shock
Uniform (Electric motor, turbine)	1.00	1.25	1.75 or higher
Light Shock (Multicylinder engine)	1.25	1.50	2.00 or higher
Medium Shock (Single-cylinder engine)	1.50	1.75	2.25 or higher

*for example, assume that all is uniform*

J

$K_v$

$K_m$

$K_a$

$K_s$

$K_B$

$K_I$

# Other Factors

---

$K_s$

**to account for size**

$K_s=1$  unless teeth are very large

$K_B$

**to account for gear with a rim and spokes**

$K_B=1$  for solid gears

$K_I$

**to account for extra loading on idler**

$K_I=1$  for non-idlers,  $K_I=1.42$  for idler gears

---

J

$K_v$

$K_m$

$K_a$

$K_s$

$K_B$

$K_I$

---

## Back to the Example

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$$\sigma_b = \frac{W_t \cdot p_d}{F \cdot J} \cdot \frac{K_a K_m}{K_v} K_s K_B K_I$$

---

$$\sigma_{b_{gear}} = \frac{(420)(4)}{(3)(0.38)} \cdot \frac{(1)(1.63)}{(0.845)} (1)(1)(1) = 2842 \text{ psi}$$

---

$$\sigma_{b_{pinion}} = \frac{(420)(4)}{(3)(0.34)} \cdot \frac{(1)(1.63)}{(0.845)} (1)(1)(1) = 3177 \text{ psi}$$

# Compared to What??

---

$\sigma_b$  is great, but what do I compare it to?

$$S_{fb} = \frac{K_L}{K_T K_R} S_{fb'}$$

similar concept to  $S_e$ , but particularized to gears

$S_{fb'}$  → Table 11-20  
Figure 11-25 for steels



# Life Factor $K_L$

to adjust test data from  $1E7$  to any number of cycles

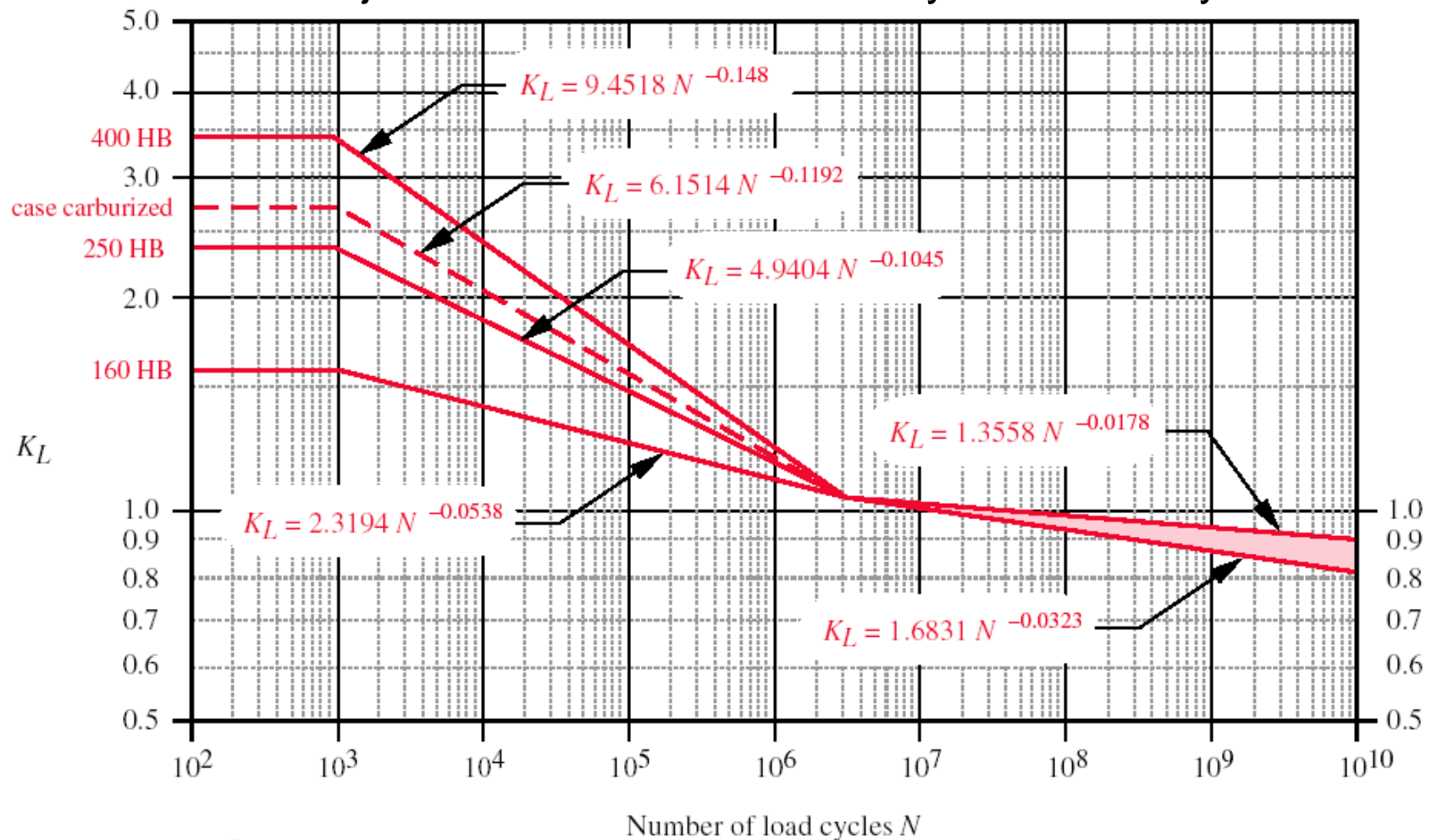


FIGURE 11-24 \*

# Temperature & Reliability Factors

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$K_T = 1$  if  $T < 250^\circ\text{F}$   
see Equation 11.24a if  $T > 250^\circ\text{F}$

---

**Table 11-19**

AGMA Factor  $K_R$

Reliability %	$K_R$
90	0.85
99	1.00
99.9	1.25
99.99	1.50



# Fatigue Bending Strength for Example

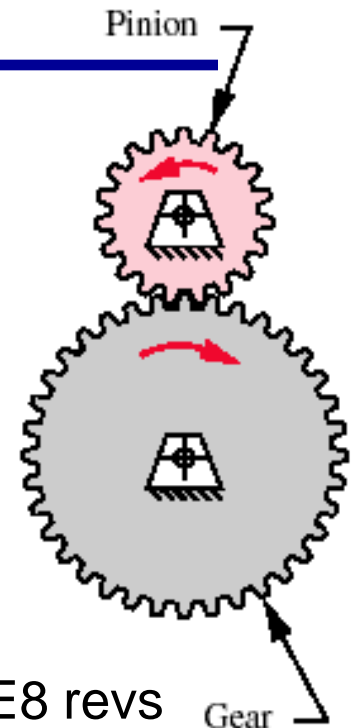
Class 40 Cast Iron  
450 rpm, 8 hours/day, 10 years  
 $T = 80^{\circ}\text{F}$   
Reliability=99%

Table 11-20  $\longrightarrow S_{fb}' = 13\text{ksi}$

$$N = (450 \text{ rev/min})(60 \text{ min/hr})(8 \text{ hr/dy})(250 \text{ dy/yr})(10 \text{ yrs}) = 5.4\text{E}8 \text{ revs}$$

$$K_L = 1.3558N^{-0.0178} = 0.948$$

$$S_{fb} = (0.948)13\text{ksi} = 12.3 \text{ ksi}$$



# Safety Factor

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$$N_b = \frac{S_{fb}}{\sigma_b}$$

$$N_{bpinion} = (12300 \text{ psi}) / (3177 \text{ psi}) = 3.88$$

$$N_{bgear} = (12300 \text{ psi}) / (2842 \text{ psi}) = 4.33$$

# Gear Failure

## Fatigue Loading

from bending of teeth

- infinite life possible
- failure can be sudden

## Surface Failure

from contact b/n of teeth

- infinite life not possible
- failure is gradual

Buckingham pioneered this work

$$\sigma_c = C_p \sqrt{\frac{W_t}{F \cdot I \cdot d} \frac{C_a C_m}{C_v} C_s C_f}$$

equal to 1

same as for bending

d= pitch diameter of smaller gear

# Geometry Factor I

---

*considers radius of curvature of teeth and pressure angle*

$$I = \frac{\cos \phi}{\left( \frac{1}{\rho_p} \pm \frac{1}{\rho_g} \right) d_p}$$

$$\rho_p = \left[ \left( r_p + \frac{1+x_p}{p_d} \right)^2 - (r_p \cos \phi)^2 \right]^{1/2} - \frac{\pi}{p_d} \cos \phi \quad \rho_g = C \sin \phi \mp \rho_p$$

*top sign is for external gears, bottom for internal*

**For example:  $\rho_p=0.691$ ,  $\rho_g=1.87$ ,  $I=0.095$**

# Elastic Coefficient

*considers differences in materials*

Table 11-18 AGMA Elastic Coefficient  $C_p$  in Units of  $[\text{psi}]^{0.5}$  (  $[\text{MPa}]^{0.5}$  )<sup>\*†</sup>

Pinion Material	$E_p$ psi (MPa)	Gear Material					
		Steel	Malleable Iron	Nodular Iron	Cast Iron	Aluminum Bronze	Tin Bronze
Steel	30E6 (2E5)	2 300 (191)	2 180 (181)	2 160 (179)	2 100 (174)	1 950 (162)	1 900 (158)
Malleable Iron	25E6 (1.7E5)	2 180 (181)	2 090 (174)	2 070 (172)	2 020 (168)	1 900 (158)	1 850 (154)
Nodular Iron	24E6 (1.7E5)	2 160 (179)	2 070 (172)	2 050 (170)	2 000 (166)	1 880 (156)	1 830 (152)
Cast Iron	22E6 (1.5E5)	2 100 (174)	2 020 (168)	2 000 (166)	1 960 (163)	1 850 (154)	1 800 (149)
Aluminum Bronze	17.5E6 (1.2E5)	1 950 (162)	1 900 (158)	1 880 (156)	1 850 (154)	1 750 (145)	1 700 (141)
Tin Bronze	16E6 (1.1E5)	1 900 (158)	1 850 (154)	1 830 (152)	1 800 (149)	1 700 (141)	1 650 (137)

For example,  $C_p=1960$  psi

# Surface-Fatigue Strengths

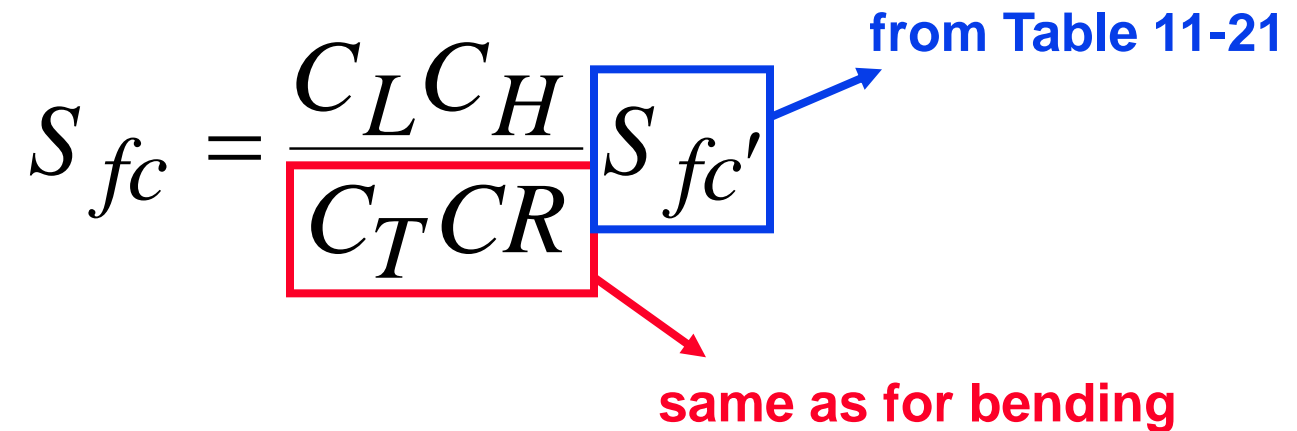
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$\sigma_c$  is great, but what do I compare it to?

$$S_{fc} = \frac{C_L C_H}{C_T C_R} S_{fc'}$$

from Table 11-21

same as for bending

The diagram shows the equation  $S_{fc} = \frac{C_L C_H}{C_T C_R} S_{fc'}$ . The denominator  $C_T C_R$  is enclosed in a red rectangular box, with a red arrow pointing from it to the text "same as for bending". The numerator  $C_L C_H$  and the term  $S_{fc'}$  are enclosed in a blue rectangular box, with a blue arrow pointing from it to the text "from Table 11-21".

# Life Factor $C_L$

to adjust test data from 1E7 to any number of cycles

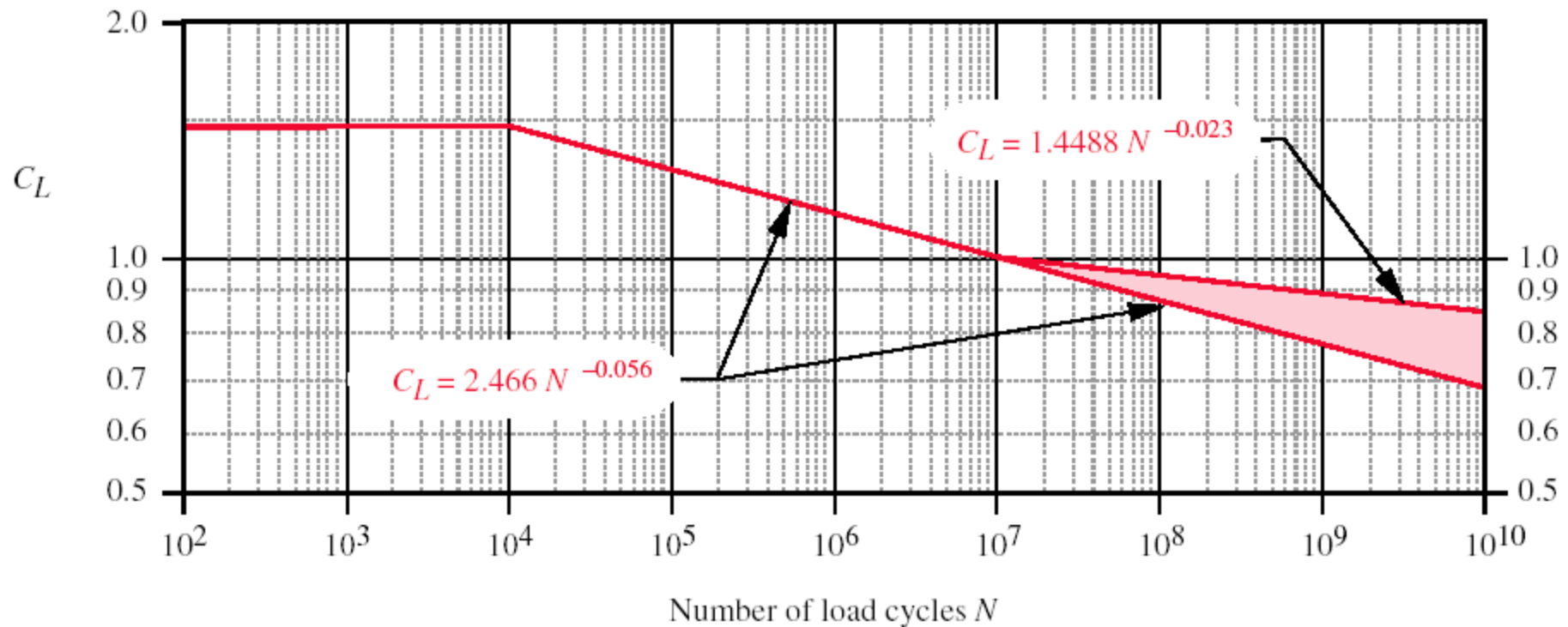


FIGURE 11-26 \*

AGMA Surface-Fatigue Strength Life Factor  $C_L$

# Hardness Ratio $C_H$

---

to account for pitting resistance

when pinion is harder than gear, then gear is cold-worked

only apply  $C_H$  to the cold-worked gear

when  $HB_p = HB_G$ , then  $C_H = 1$



# Safety Factor for Loading

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stress is based on the square root of loading, therefore:

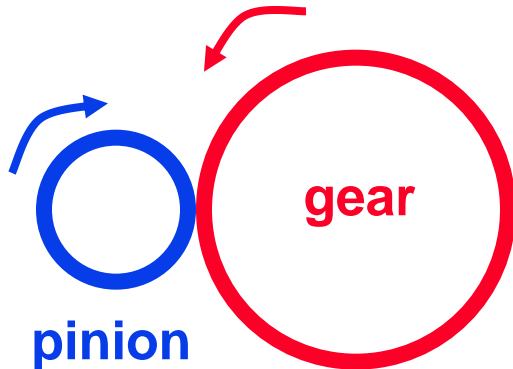
$$N_c = \left( \frac{S_{fc}}{\sigma_c} \right)^2$$

---

# **Gear Design**

# Gear Design

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## Same for Pinion and Gear

- $p_d$  ( $p_c$ ),  $\phi$ ,  $F$
- Power
- $W$ ,  $W_t$ ,  $W_r$
- $V_t$
- $N_c$

## Different for Pinion and Gear

- $d$ ,  $N$
- $T$ ,  $\omega$ ,
- $N_b$

# Gear Design Strategy

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## Given or Set:

gear ratio  
Power,  $\omega$ ,  $T$

$W_t$

## Properties of Gears to Determine:

$d_p$ ,  $d_g$ ,  $N_p$ ,  $N_g$   
 $p_d$ ,  $F$  -OR- Safety Factors  
(the others are given)

Bending & Surface Stresses

Safety Factors or  $p_d$  and  $F$