# Unit M1.3 Uses of Equilibrium

<u>Readings</u>: CDL 1.7, 1.8

16.001/002 -- *"Unified Engineering"* Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics Massachusetts Institute of Technology

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES FOR UNIT M1.3

Through participation in the lectures, recitations, and work associated with Unit M1.3, it is intended that you will be able to.....

- ....represent the boundary conditions of a body via the use of the idealizations of supports
- ....model a body/system and forces and moments acting on such through the use of a Free Body Diagram
- ....classify mechanical systems into three categories
- ....calculate the reaction forces in a statically determinate system

Thus far, we have talked about external forces and the requirements for equilibrium. But there are another set of forces (besides internal forces) on bodies/structures.

In statics, these bodies are <u>restrained/supported</u> and thus we need to consider the forces created at such supports.

We must first consider

### <u>Types of Support</u> (and Their Reactions)

Supports can also be thought of as a restraint or constraint.

--> we draw <u>idealized</u> versions to represent reality.

<u>IMPORTANT</u>: Realize limitation of model. Model is <u>not</u> reality.

--> Typical idealizations:



- --> Supporting surface is <u>frictionless</u>. Therefore, support reaction is only perpendicular to surface of support (allows sliding) e.g., (point support)
  - 2. <u>Pin</u>

### Figure M1.3-2 Representation of a pin



Attached but allows swiveling. Thus reactions in perpendicular and parallel directions to surface, but no moment (actually in any direction, but resolve to two components, e.g., hinge).



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### f is

- parallel to plane of support
- proportional to normal force, N
- acting in opposite direction to motion which would occur if f = 0

We can now use these with the external forces on bodies to draw...

### Free Body Diagrams

A free body diagram isolates a body and identifies the system of forces (external and reactions) acting on it

Similar concept in other disciplines...

--> There are two basic steps in drawing the free body diagram:

1. Make a <u>neat</u> diagram of the body with applied loads and idealized supports and important dimensions and axis system

Figure M1.3-5 Example: 10-foot flagpole in a wall with weight (flag) at end



Once we have a free body diagram, what can we do with it?

Determine reaction forces, internal forces, etc. But the results lump into

### Three Problems/Classes/Categories

(illustrate in 2-D, can generalize to 3-D)

1. Dynamic

(Number of rigid body mode degrees of freedom) > (Number of reactions) d.o.f.

=> Body moves



#### 2. <u>Statically Determinate</u>

(Number of rigid body mode degrees of freedom) = (Number of reactions)

#### Figure M1.3-8 Example of Statically Determinate Problem



- --> <u>Implication</u>: Can determine reactions and internal forces <u>purely</u> from equilibrium considerations.
- => Does <u>not</u> matter what the material is with regard to reactions and internal forces!

#### 3. Statically Indeterminate

(Number of rigid body mode degrees of freedom) < (Number of reactions)

#### Figure M1.3-9 Example of Statically Indeterminate Problem





- --> <u>Implication</u>: Can <u>not</u> determine reactions and internal forces from equilibrium but also need constitutive relations (deformation of structure affects reactions and internal forces.
- => Material does make a difference for internal forces and reactions

Thus far we have learned how to apply equilibrium. Let's, therefore, concentrate on category 2.....

### Statically Determinate Systems

- a) Can determine force distribution by applying equations of equilibrium
  - --> Use flagpole as example (Planar System, but again can generalize to 3-D)
- Figure M1.3-10 Free body diagram of 10-foot flagpole (massless) with flag at end



$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} F(x_{i} - \text{direction}) = 0 \quad (\text{generic form})$$
apply to specific case
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} F_{H} = 0 \quad \stackrel{+}{\xrightarrow{}} \quad \Rightarrow H + \underbrace{0}_{i} = 0 \Rightarrow H = 0$$
indicate positive direction
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} F(x_{3} - \text{direction}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{n} F_{V} = 0 \quad \uparrow + \quad \Rightarrow V - F = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow V = F$$
Finally...
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} M(\text{about } x_{2}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{0} = 0 \quad \stackrel{+}{\xrightarrow{}}$$
Choose convenient point about which to take moments.

Origin is often a selection.

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$$\Rightarrow M - F(10ft) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow M = F(10ft)$$
All reactions determined, so....  
If F = 10 lbs, then V = 10 lbs.  
M = 100 ft. lbs.  
b) Redraw Free Body Diagram (FBD) using results:  
Figure M1.3-10 Free body diagram of (massless) flagpole redrawn with  
10-pound flag and values of reactions  
Note: H = 0, so  
don't draw it  
100 ft. lbs  
10 lbs  
10 lbs

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Now let's see how we can investigate the distribution of forces in a structure once we know the reactions in a statically determinate case (still using only the equations of equilibrium)

**↓** 10 lbs