



**RoboJackets**



THE ARTHUR M. BLANK  
FAMILY FOUNDATION

2007 TE Sessions – Mechanical  
Energy and Fluid Power  
Oct. 30, 2007

[www.robojackets.org](http://www.robojackets.org)



# MECH ENERGY STORAGE

**RoboJackets**



# Energy



## What is energy?

### Energy

#### Units:

Foot-pounds; Newton-meters; Joules; BTU; Calories, etc

- Energy is energy regardless of sign
- Non directional

### Sign significance

- Energy can be stored in two ways
- Potential
- Kinetic

### Sign significance

- Energy can be expended through work
- or dissipated (friction & heat)



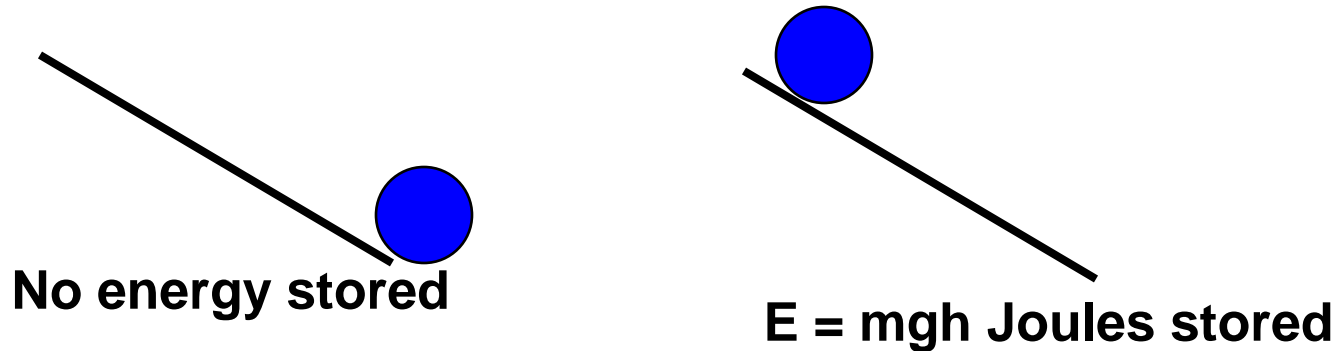
# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Potential

Energy can be stored as a force against gravity

- Simplest way is a force at a distance (foot-pounds)
- Raising a mass against gravity



**Energy stored = mass x gravity x height**  
 **$E = mgh$**



# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Potential

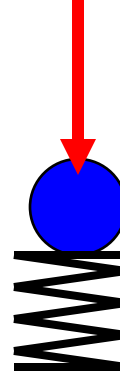
Energy can be stored as inside mechanical devices through material deflection

- Springs store energy
- Spring constant



No energy stored

Force



Energy stored by applying force



# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Springs

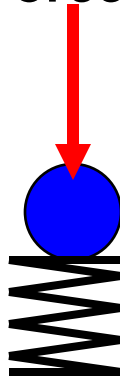
Energy stored is a function of two things:

- Spring constant  $k$
- Distance of spring deflection  $x$

### Spring constant

- $k = \text{Force/Displacement} = F/x$
- Amount of force needed to deflect spring one inch

Force



Force causes spring to deflect



# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Springs

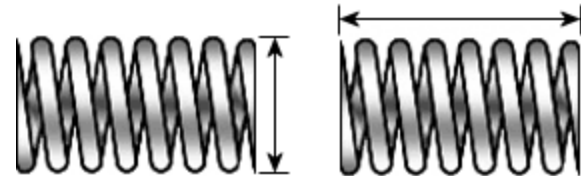
Other spring definitions, terms, and specs

### Material

- Spring steel, music wire

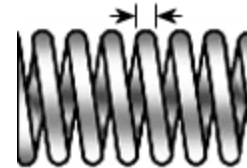
### Specs

- Outside Diameter and length



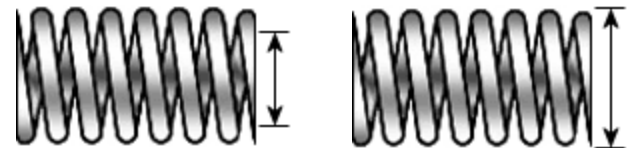
### Specs

- Wire Size



### Specs

- Rod and Hole Size





# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Springs

Other spring definitions, terms, and specs

### Compressed Length

- Minimum length of spring under force

### Compression springs

- Forces compress the spring



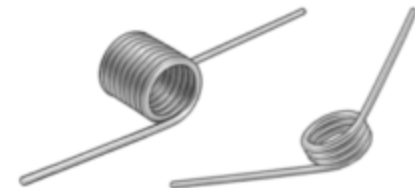
### Tension

- Forces extend the spring



### Torsion

- Torques compress the spring







# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Potential

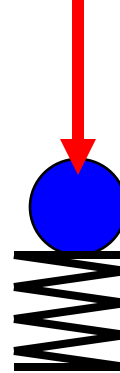
Energy can be stored as inside mechanical devices through spring deflection

- Energy stored =  $\frac{1}{2} k x^2$



No energy stored

Force



Energy stored by applying force



# Energy

## Potential Storage

### Example

- Energy stored =  $\frac{1}{2} k x^2$
- $k = 20 \text{ lbf/in}$
- Desired energy = 100 ft-lbf
- How far must spring be compressed?
  - $100 \text{ ft-lbf} = \frac{1}{2} 20 \text{ lbf/in } x^2$
  - $x = 3.16 \text{ inches}$

Energy storage is quadratic, not linear



# Energy



## Potential Storage

### Other Potential Storage Mechanisms

- **Compressed gas**

Air compressors store air in large tanks

Stored air is used in large quantities by tools

- **Fuel**

Hydrocarbons (gasoline, propane, etc)

Fuel is chemically stored energy

- **Batteries**

Batteries store energy as chemical electricity

Batteries can be recharged by adding energy



# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

What is kinetic energy?

- Kinetic energy is in motion
- All mass in motion has kinetic energy

- Falling/Moving mass

Mass in motion has energy proportional to its mass and speed

- Rotating mass

Spinning mass has energy proportional to its inertia and rpm



# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

- Kinetic energy is in motion
  - All mass in motion has kinetic energy
- 
- Falling/Moving mass  
Mass in motion has energy proportional to its mass and speed
- 
- Rotating mass  
Spinning mass has energy proportional to its inertia and rpm

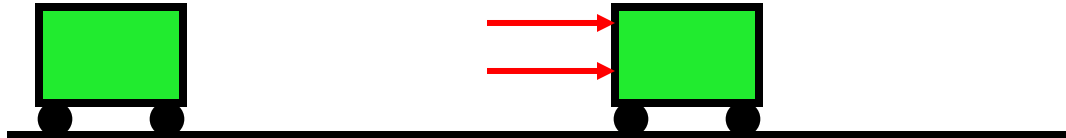


# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

### Mass in motion

- Energy =  $\frac{1}{2}$  mass x velocity<sup>2</sup>
- $E = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$



- Energy increases quadratically with velocity
- Energy increases linearly with mass

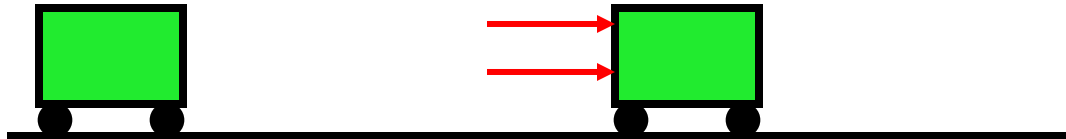


# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

### Example

- 20kg mass moving at 10 m/s
- $E = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$



Energy required =  $\frac{1}{2} \times 20\text{kg} \times (10\text{m/s})^2$   
 $E = 1000 \text{ Joules (N-m)}$



# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

- Flywheels
  - Flywheels store kinetic energy by spinning
  - Examples: engine flywheel, saw blade, governor
- Rotating mass energy:  
Energy =  $\frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$   
I = moment of inertia  
 $\omega$  = angular velocity (rad/s)





# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

### - Flywheels

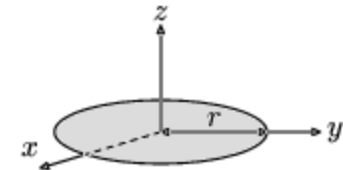
**Example:**

**5kg, 0.2m diameter, thin disc spinning at 100 rad/s  
How much energy is it storing?**

**First calculate its moment of inertia:**

$$I_z = \frac{1}{2} m r^2$$

$$I_z = \frac{1}{2} 5\text{kg} (0.1\text{m})^2 = 0.025\text{kg-m}^2$$



**Calculate kinetic energy stored:**

$$E = \frac{1}{2} I \omega^2$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} (0.025\text{kg-m})(100\text{rad/s})^2$$

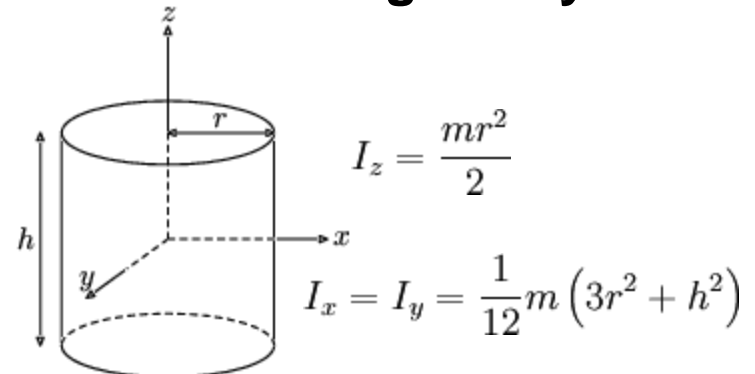
$$E = 125 \text{ Joules}$$



# Energy

## Kinetic Energy

- Notes on spinning masses:
  - Energy increases quadratically with angular velocity (rpm)
  - Energy increases linearly with inertia
  - Inertia increases linearly with mass
  - Inertia increases quadratically with radius
- Greater inertia effects from having all mass at the edge of flywheel





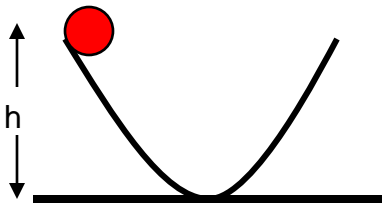
# Energy

## Dissipation

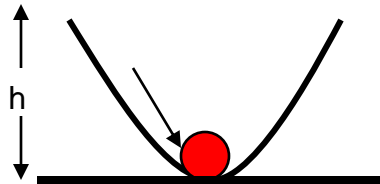


Where does energy go???

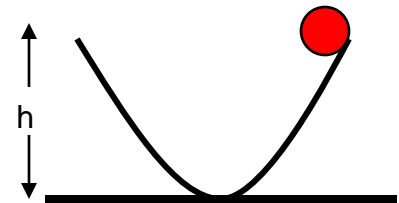
First an example on ideal energy conversion:



$$\text{PE} = mgh$$
$$\text{KE} = 0 \text{ (} v = 0 \text{)}$$



$$\text{PE} = 0 \text{ (} h = 0 \text{)}$$
$$\text{KE} = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$$



$$\text{PE} = mgh$$
$$\text{KE} = 0 \text{ (} v = 0 \text{)}$$

Ideally,  $mgh = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$  and potential is fully converted into kinetic, then back to potential, infinitely



# Energy

## Dissipation



### Conservation Of Energy

**FOUNDING PRINCIPLE OF THE UNIVERSE!!!**

**Energy in = Energy out ALWAYS!!!**

- Energy is never perfectly converted though
- Efficiency % =  $\frac{\text{mechanical energy output}}{\text{mechanical energy input}}$

### Sources of loss:

- Friction
- Heat loss
- Noise

**Most energy is lost through friction and heat generation**



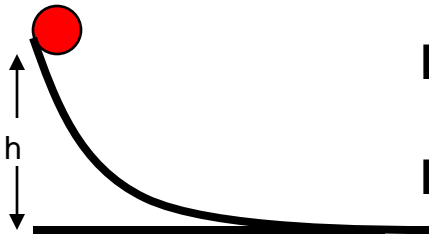
# Energy

## Dissipation



### Efficiency Example

A mass slides down a slope, reaching a final velocity  
 $m = 10 \text{ kg}$ ,  $h = 2\text{m}$ ,  $v_f = 5 \text{ m/s}$



Initial potential energy:

$$PE_0 = mgh = (10\text{kg})(9.81\text{m/s}^2)(2\text{m}) = 196.2 \text{ J}$$

Initial kinetic energy:

$$KE_0 = \frac{1}{2} mv^2 = (1/2)(10\text{kg})(0\text{m/s}) = 0\text{J}$$

$$PE = mgh$$

$$KE = \frac{1}{2} mv^2$$

Final potential energy:

$$PE_f = mgh = (10\text{kg})(9.81\text{m/s}^2)(0\text{m}) = 0 \text{ J}$$

Final kinetic energy:

$$KE_f = \frac{1}{2} mv^2 = (1/2)(10\text{kg})(5\text{m/s})^2 = 125 \text{ J}$$

Efficiency = Final total energy / Initial total energy:

$$\text{eff}\% = (125 \text{ J}) / (196.2 \text{ J}) = \mathbf{63.7\%}$$



# Energy

## Storage and Conversion

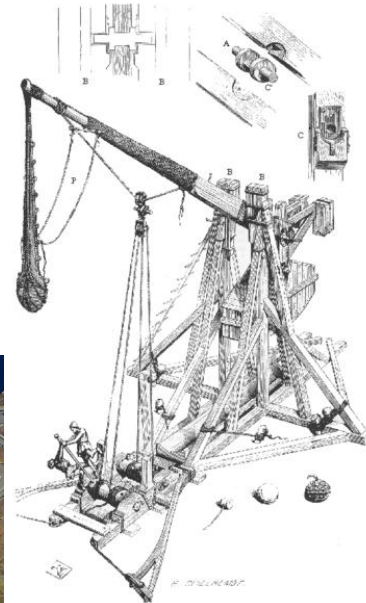
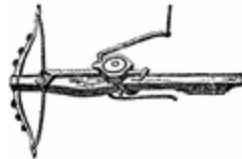
### DEMO

Energy is stored in a spring, then released

Converting its potential energy to kinetic energy of a smaller body

Other energy converters:

- Trebuchet, catapult (potential  $\rightarrow$  kinetic)
- Generator (kinetic  $\rightarrow$  electric potential)
- Engine (chemical potential  $\rightarrow$  kinetic)
- Motor (electric potential  $\rightarrow$  kinetic)
- Air compressor (kinetic  $\rightarrow$  potential)





# Activity # 1

**30 minutes**



**CATAPULT!!!**

**Store some potential energy and convert it to kinetic energy!**

**Ammo: Vex gear (36 tooth)**

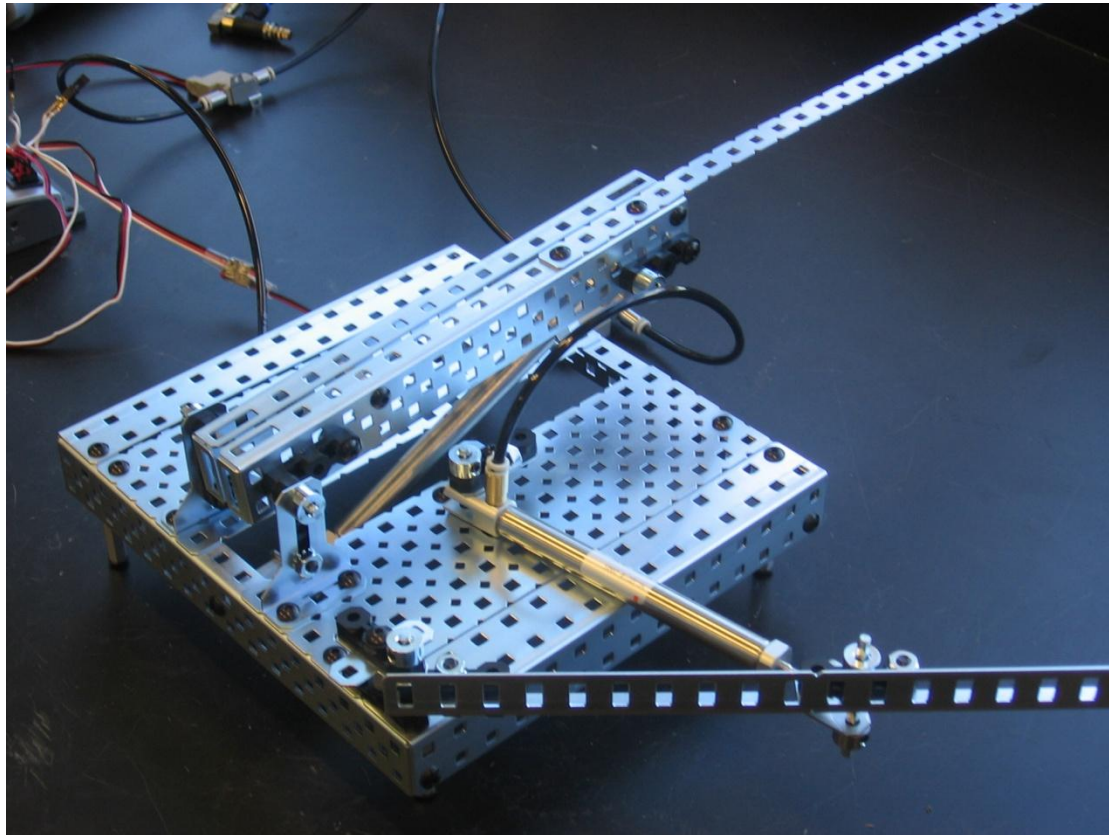
**Build a catapult using gravity to fling a Vex gear**

**Distance will be judged from where the gear first hits ground**

**Be quick though! You have **25 MINUTES** starting **NOW****



# Demo of example







# FLUID POWER

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# What is Fluid Power?



- Pressurized fluid does the work
- Hydraulics
  - Oil
  - Water
  - Other fluids
- Pneumatics
  - Air
  - Nitrogen
  - Hot gases
  - Other gases



# When to use fluid power



- Electric
  - High speed but low torque (force) → requires gears
  - Control is often more precise and rapid and less expensive
- Hydraulic and pneumatic
  - Speed/torque combo is well suited to many motion applications
  - Well suited to high forces
  - Can be delivered “around the corner”
  - Control is usually by throttling, hence wastes energy
- Center for Compact Efficient Fluid Power
  - A brazen commercial



# Hydraulics is Especially critical to the Mobile Equipment Industry



New G-Series Track-Type Tractor





# Mobile equipment (construction)



**RoboJack**



# Pneumatics compared to hydraulics **CAT**<sup>®</sup>

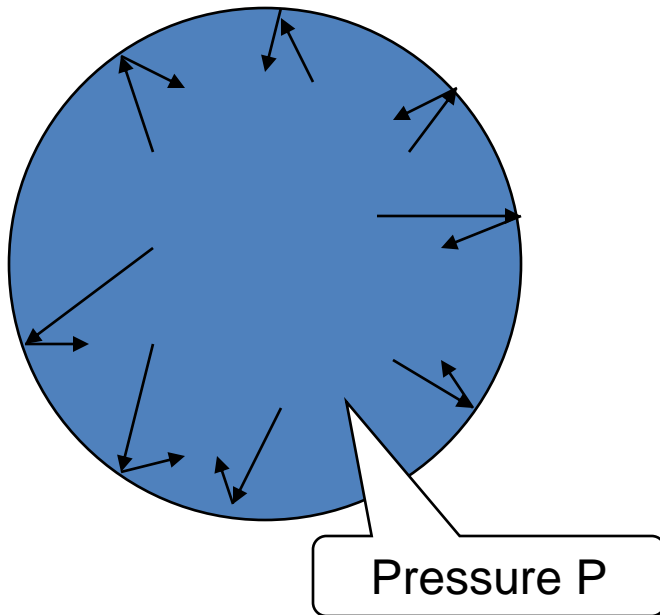
- No problems of a spills
- Compressibility stores energy
  - Available for your use
  - Dangerous if excessive volumes or pressures
- Difficult to control precisely
- Fluid is readily available
  - Should be filtered, dry
- Usually lower forces







# Pressure of an “ideal” Gas **CAT**

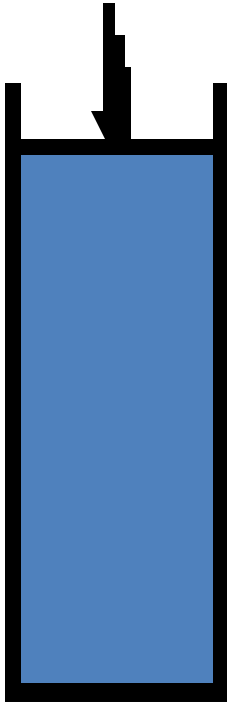


$$P \times V = mR \times T$$

- Pressure of a gas is due to the force of gas molecules bouncing off the walls.
- Pressure increases when molecules are moving faster, heavier, or if there are more molecules.
- Molecules move faster when they are hot.
- $mR$  depends on molecule.



# Getting Work out of Air



- Work is force acting over a distance of motion, e.g. Newton x meters
- Put air in a container under pressure
- Allow part of the container to expand
- The expanding part does work





# How much energy is in your tank? **CAT**<sup>®</sup>

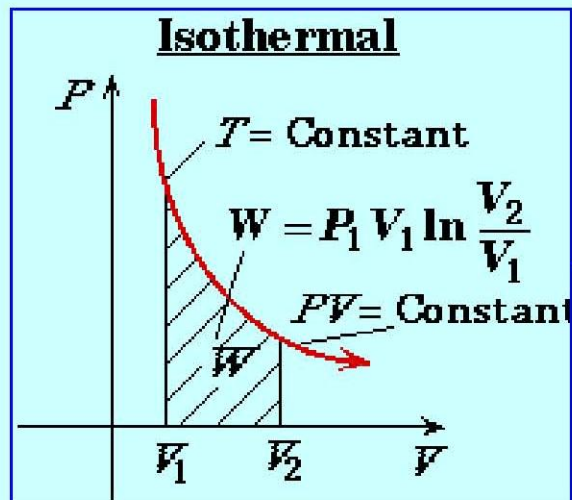
- Tank Volume = 150 ml or 9.154 in<sup>3</sup>
- Pressure = 413,700 Pa or 60 psi
- Atmospheric pressure = 101,325 Pa or 14.7 psi
- Answer:
  - Assume constant temperature:  
 $PV = mRT = \text{constant}$
  - Work =  $PV \ln(P/P_{\text{atm}})$   
 $= 0.15 \times 413,700 \times \ln(4.083) = 87.3 \text{ kJ}$



# Alternative Work Possibilities



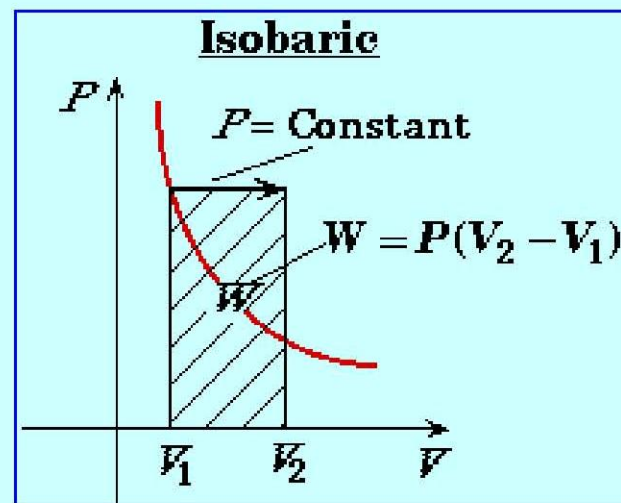
$$W = \int_{V_1}^{V_2} P(V) dV$$



Blowup of the PV diagram for Isothermals

$$P = \frac{nRT}{V}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_{V_1}^{V_2} P dV = \int_{V_1}^{V_2} \frac{nRT}{V} dV \\ &= nRT \int_{V_1}^{V_2} \frac{dV}{V} = nRT \ln \frac{V_2}{V_1} \end{aligned}$$

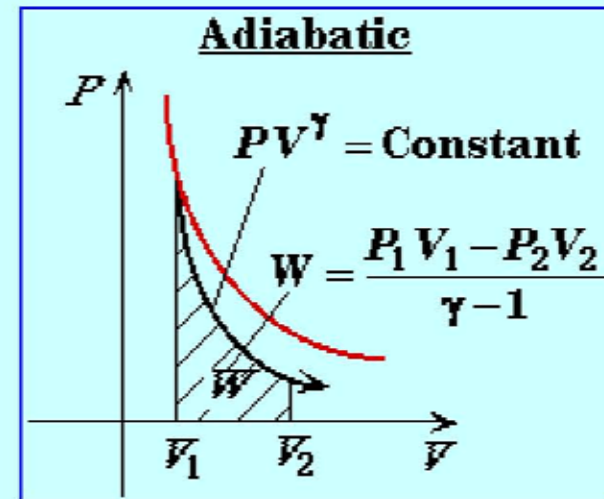
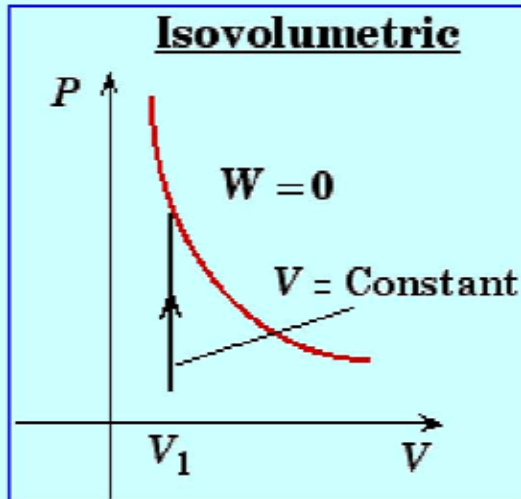


$$P = \text{Constant}$$

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \int_{V_1}^{V_2} P dV = P \int_{V_1}^{V_2} dV \\ &= P \Delta V \end{aligned}$$



# More work possibilities



[http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~vawter/PhysicsNet/Topics/Thermal/PV\\_WorkDiag.html](http://www.ac.wvu.edu/~vawter/PhysicsNet/Topics/Thermal/PV_WorkDiag.html) (1 of 2) 10/23/2006 1:07:17 PM



# How much energy in your tank can you use?



- Line losses:  
Pressure drop proportional to flow
- Throttling losses:  
Pressure drop proportional to flow squared
- Cylinder friction:  
Coulomb plus viscous friction, depends on seals



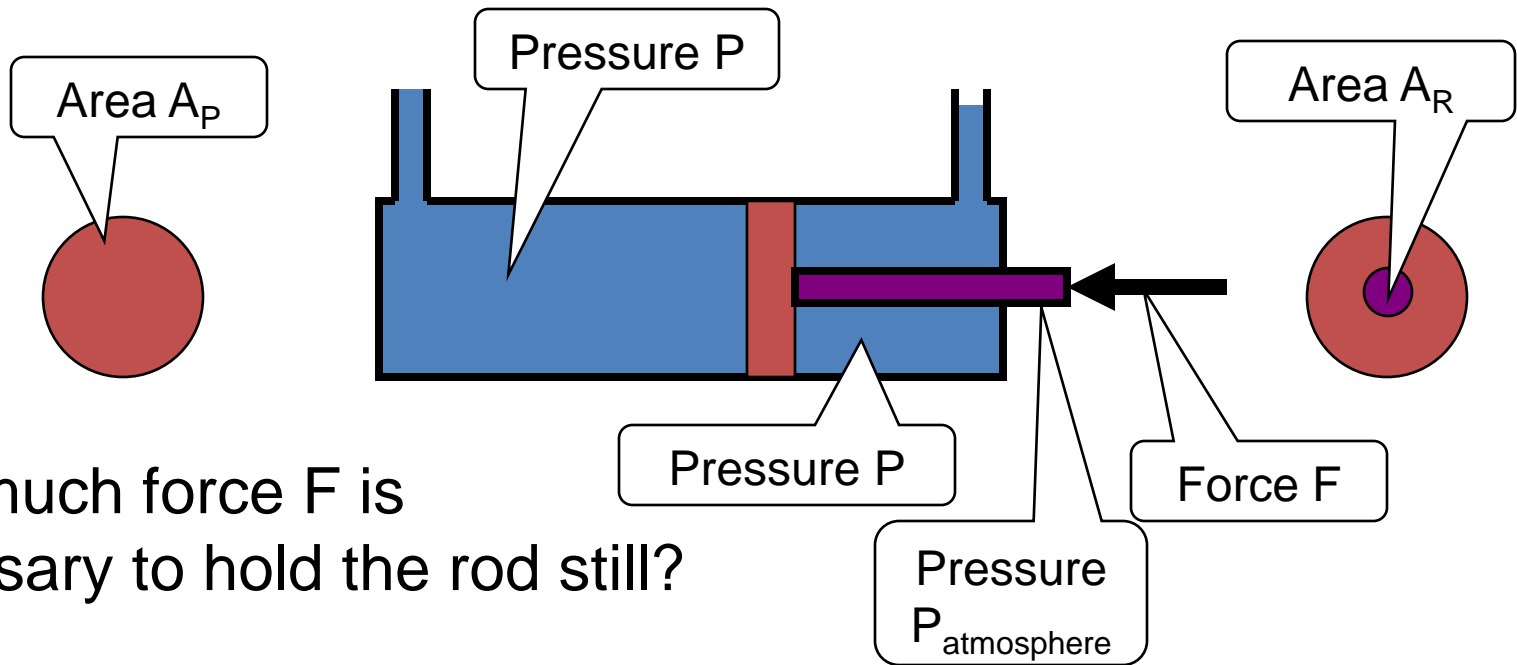
# Force available



- Pressure x Area = Force
- Area =  $\pi \times \text{Bore}^2 / 4$
- For Vex cylinder:
  - Bore = 10 mm  $\rightarrow$  Area = 78.5 mm<sup>2</sup>
  - Force = 413,700 x 78.5 x 10<sup>-6</sup> = 32.48 N
  - at 100 psi: F = 54 N



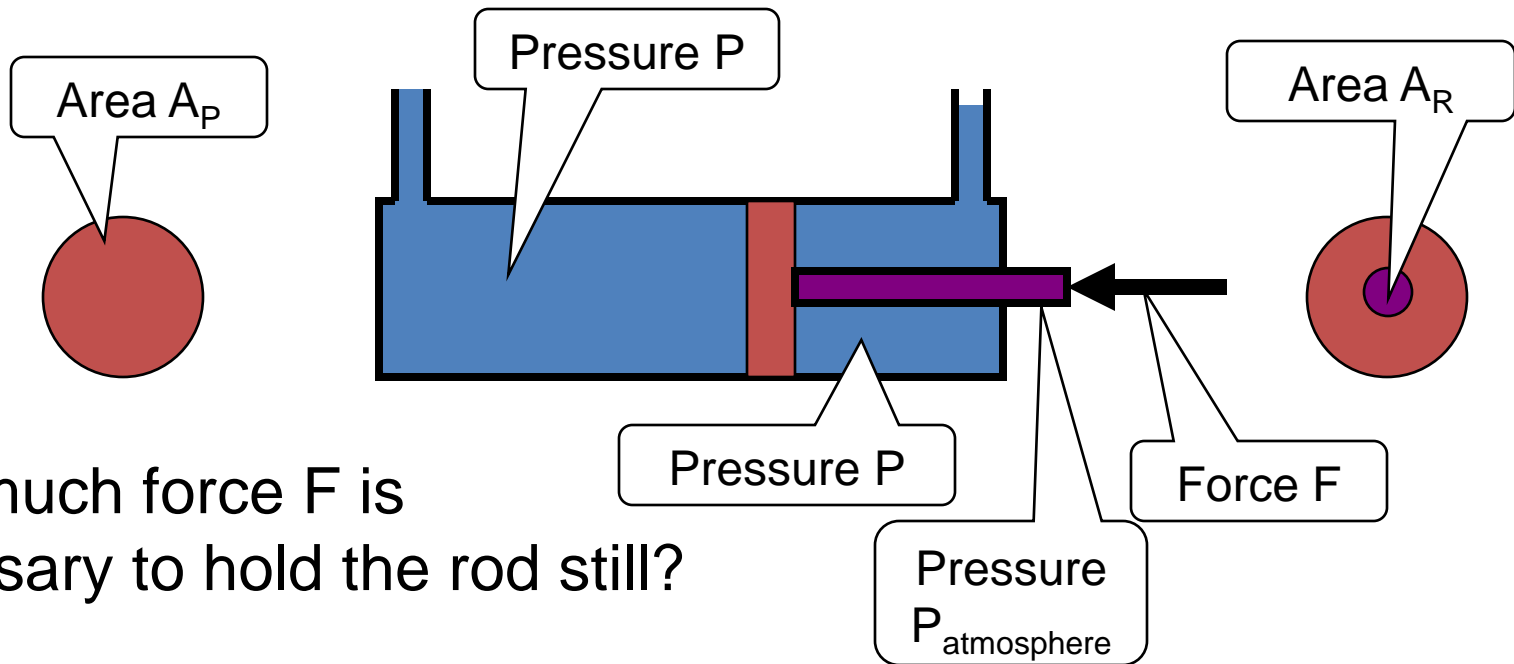
# The Effect of Different Areas **CAT**



How much force  $F$  is necessary to hold the rod still?



# The Effect of Different Areas **CAT**



How much force  $F$  is necessary to hold the rod still?

Answer: Force to the right = Force to the left

$$P \times A_P = P \times (A_P - A_R) + P_{atm} \times A_R + F$$

$$F = A_R \times (P - P_{atm})$$



# Basic Operation of the Servo Valve (single stage)

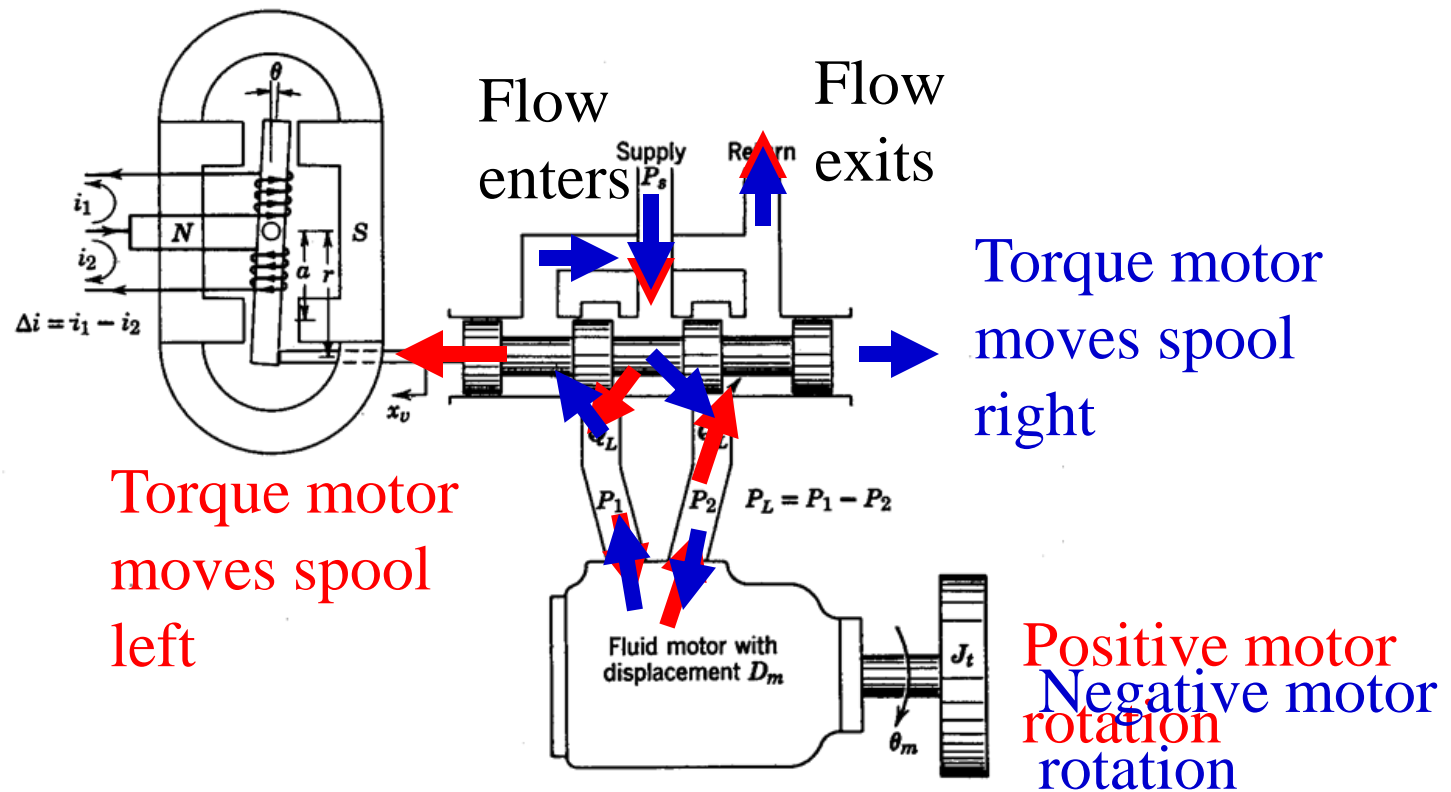


Figure 7-11 Schematic of a single stage electrohydraulic servovalve connected to a motor with inertia load.





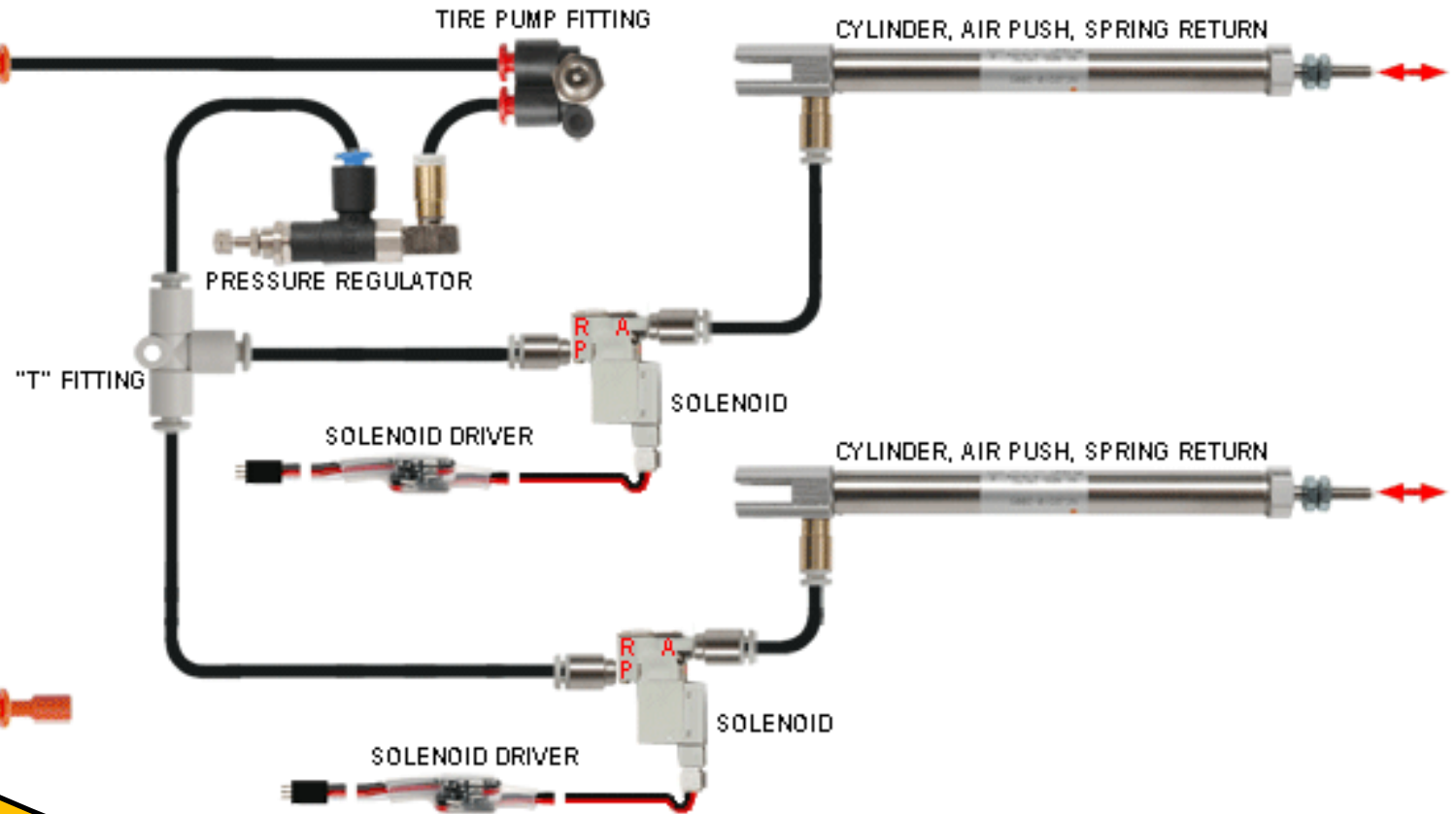
# Components for hands on task **CAT**<sup>®</sup>

- Cylinder: single acting, spring return
  - Max force: 54 N or 12 lbf
  - Stroke: 50 mm or 1.987 in
  - Bore: 10 mm or 0.394 in
- Valve: normally closed vents to atmosphere
- Tank:
  - Size: 150 ml or 9.154 in<sup>3</sup>
  - Max pressure: 6.895 bar (10<sup>5</sup> bar) or 100 psi
- Mechanical parts



RESERVOIR

# VEX Pneumatic Kit 1



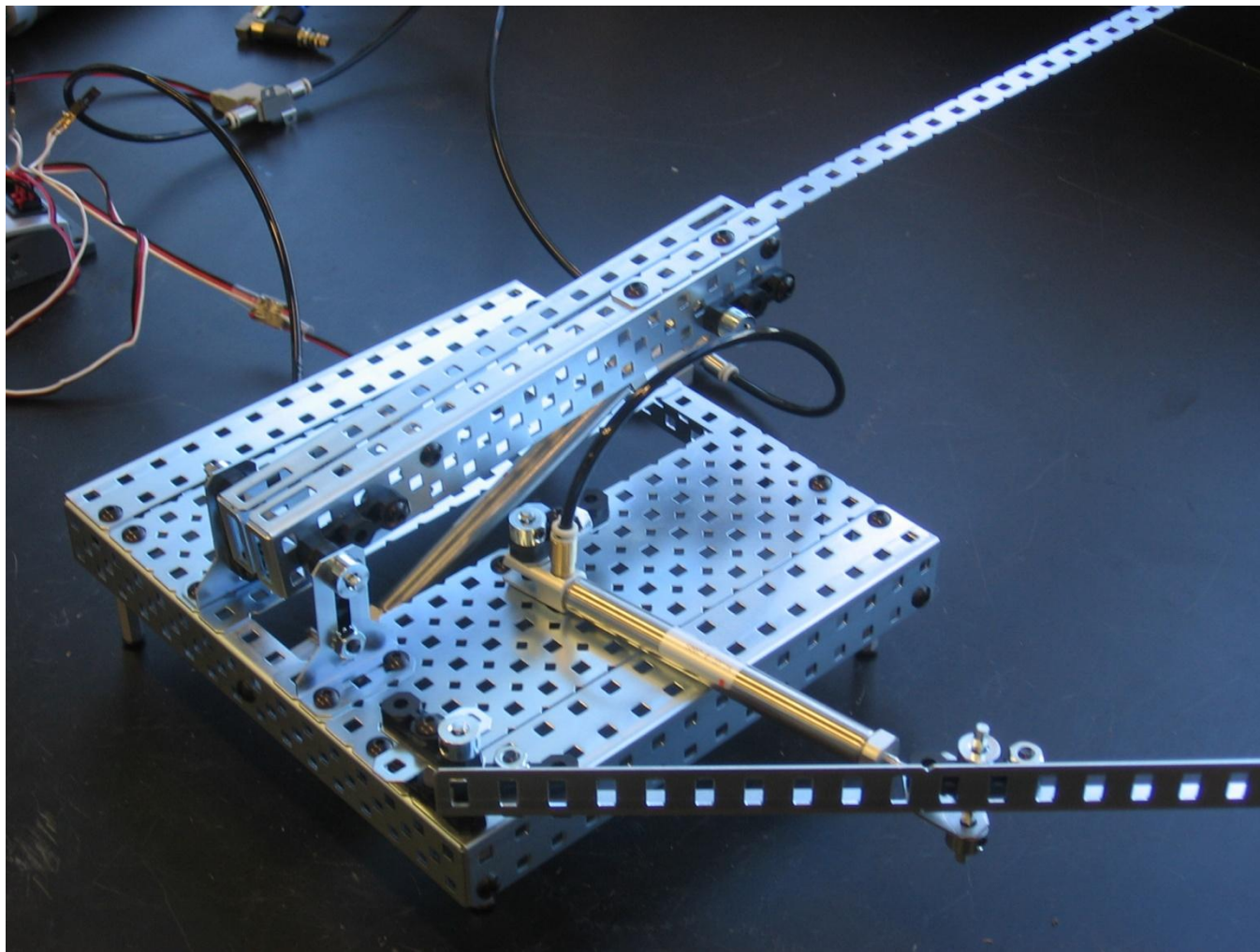
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# Today's Challenge



- Maximum distance launch of 1 Vex gear
- Rules
  - The reservoir shall be charged at 60 psi
  - The base shall remain immobile
  - Only fluid power actuators (pistons) shall be used
  - The best out of three launches shall be considered



**RoboJackets**



# An example design



- Consider different configurations than the one shown?
  - two cylinders in parallel or in series
  - different linkage configurations to achieve higher speeds
  - making the lever as light as possible
  - taking advantage of flexibility to achieve higher release speeds...



# Today's Challenge # 2



- Maximum distance launch of 1 Vex gear
- Rules
  - The reservoir shall be charged at 60 psi
  - The base shall remain immobile
  - Only fluid power actuators (pistons) shall be used
  - The best out of three launches shall be considered



# Some YouTube Videos



- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkft2qaKv\\_o](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkft2qaKv_o)
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0gk-yQ1H3M8>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7l0qlO7y6Cc>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2cluuplWRIQ>



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