Ball to Separator Contact Forces in Angular Contact Ball Bearings Under Thrust and Radial Loads

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GRANT NSG-3065
APRIL 1978
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Prepared for
Lewis Research Center
under Grant NSG-3065

NASA
National Aeronautics
and Space Administration
Scientific and Technical
Information Office
1978
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**Introduction**

Current developments in jet engine technology are placing more stringent demands on gas turbine design. There is a constantly increasing requirement for engines to develop greater thrust outputs. In addition to this increased loading the need to raise the thrust/weight ratio of engines and to improve the fuel consumption has led to higher rotor speeds and operating temperatures, lighter components and correspondingly increased structural flexibility. In anticipation of tomorrow's requirements, further advanced knowledge of engine component technology must be obtained.(1)*

In the case of rolling contact bearings there is a need for a better understanding of cage and rolling element dynamics, particularly in ultra-high speed applications.(2,3,4,5)

Recently developed, advanced bearing theories have resulted in computerized optimization of rolling element bearing designs and in some cases accurate prediction of bearing performance. These developments and advances by no means substitute for testing of rolling element bearings which for many years was the basis for bearing development. To the contrary, the need for more refined data gathering methods has become obvious. Tests are needed to verify the theories which form the foundation of these computer programs. Also, performance tests and studies will always be needed to refine bearing designs for critical applications.

The interaction between the rolling elements of a bearing with the raceways and separators is particularly difficult to measure due

*Numbers in parentheses designate references at end of report.*
to the rapidity of their motion. The kinematic behavior and the resulting forces acting on a rolling element/separater/raceway assembly could in the past be measured only by tests where the operating conditions were drastically simplified.

Separator Study Machine

An optical bearing test rig has been constructed to operate the bearing and make photographic records of the rolling elements and separator behavior. Figure 1a shows an overall view of the machine as it is presently installed in the Dynamics Laboratory of the Engineering Building at California State University, Northridge. The machine was originally assembled by Industrial Tectonics, Inc., Compton, Calif., and has been used in industrial bearing research, and in a ball motion study reported in (6).

The bearing test rig is basically a shaft supported by a pair of preloaded ball bearings at one end and the test bearing at the other end. One face of the test bearing is exposed to allow free view of the balls and the separator. Radial load was applied to the test bearing by a hydraulic actuator through a cable loop over the bearing housing. The shaft was driven by a 75 hp hydraulic motor through a geared belt drive, giving speeds infinitely variable from 100 to 15,000 rpm. Figure 1b is a schematic of the shaft assembly.

Lubricating oil for under race cooling and test bearing lubrication is supplied through a series of orifices from the rear of the test bearing.

Due to the high tangential velocities present when a bearing is rotated at shaft speeds up to 15,000 rpm, conventional photographic techniques are inadequate. The difficulty lies in obtaining photo-

2
graphs having sufficient resolution for analysis when very short exposures are required to freeze the motion of the bearing elements. This problem has been overcome by eliminating the gross rotational motion using a derotation prism. The resulting image thus presents the differential motion between the separator and the rolling element, enabling observation and photographs to be made of an individual separator pocket. Derotation is accomplished by synchronizing the rotation of a Pechan prism at half-speed with the rotation of the ball separator, thus causing the apparent image rotation and the true separator rotation to coincide. This results in the derotated image of the area of interest being imaged on the film plane of a camera. Light rays from the illuminated bearing are collected through the front window of the instrument. This window is optically coated to reject ultraviolet energy produced by ultraviolet lamps, serving the circuit for the prism speed control. From the window, the rays travel through collimator lenses and the Pechan prism before they travel through the exit lenses. Their path is then deflected by mirrors which fold the image in different directions. Figure 1c shows light paths through the scanner.

One light trace travels to a beam splitter where approximately 15% of the light is reflected to the eyepiece optics to provide an image observable to the operator. The balance of light enters the aperture of the pulse camera.

Alignment and positioning of the optical elements ensure that the eyepiece observes the same image quality and format as that which the film sees.

Another image is folded and demagnified in the transfer lens assembly before it enters the camera.

A derotated image of the luminous painted segment of the test bearing separator is optically folded out and directed toward an
image splitting mirror surface wedge which proportions the light entering two photomultiplier tube photocathodes. The electronic signals from these tubes are used by the tracking system to control the prism speed.

A tracking system holds the image of a selected point at the test bearing separator in the field of view. It will accommodate a variation of up to 10% of a fixed ratio of separator-to-shaft speed without loss of the ability to lock onto the proper position within one revolution of the bearing retainer.

It is necessary to sense the tracking error in angular position of the derotation prism to provide an input for the servo system. This error signal is provided in the form of the difference in output of two multiplier phototubes.

A sector on the bearing retainer is coated with fluorescent paint and illuminated with ultraviolet light. An image of the sector of arc is formed in a plane containing the apex of a mirror surface wedge. The light striking the two surfaces of the wedge is reflected and illuminates the photocathode of the photomultiplier tubes. Rotation of the prism results in a displacement of the image and a consequent increase in the output of one tube and decrease in the output of the other.

Electronic filtering is provided to discriminate between the steady signal due to the ultraviolet excitation of the phosphor and any intermittent excitation due to strobe lamps to reduce any interaction between the level of light striking the phosphor and the error signal produced by the photomultipliers.

Four Chadwick-Helmuth Strobex lamps are flashed at the 16-frame-per-second camera rate to illuminate the separator and to stop the images of the protractors on the inner and outer races of the bearing so that angular position information is recorded on the photographs.
Four mercury vapor spot lamps with ultraviolet filters illuminate the fluorescent patch for the tracking system.

The camera used was a Neyhard Enterprises model G-k. The camera film magazine accepts 100 or 200 foot reels of 35 mm film. The camera has a data box, the image of which is projected onto each film frame.

**Test Bearings**

The bearings used in the ball to separator contact force investigation were mainshaft thrust bearings used in the Pratt and Whitney TF 30 gas turbine engine, part numbers PWA 506110 and PWA 506111. Dimensions and other characteristics of these bearings are given in Table 1.

**Separator Force Transducer**

A ball contact force transducer was constructed on the bearing separator by introducing a cantilever beam between two of the bearing balls. The cantilever beam replaced a rigid separating element so that cantilever beam deflection would give an indication of the ball contact force. A hole was drilled through one of the side rails of the separator to hold the fixed end of the cantilever beam. A notch to frame the deflected end of the cantilever was cut in the other side rail opposite the hole. Various beam cross sections were used depending on contact forces and deflections encountered. A Teflon
rubbing block was cemented to the center portion of the beam to make up the normal ball spacing dimension of the rigid separator element replaced by the ball force indicating beam. A duplicate modification was installed at 180° to the first to maintain separator balance.

With the shaft and test bearing operating at a speed and load condition to be investigated, the derotation prism was synchronized with the separator to produce a stationary image of the deflecting end of the cantilever beam as the balls and separator repeatedly moved through loaded and unloaded regions of the bearing. The 16 frame per second 35 mm instrumentation camera photographed the motions of the cantilever beam deflections relative to the notch in the separator. As ball contact forces may be expected to be a repetitive event from revolution to revolution the relatively slow framing rate can be extended to a very high effective framing rate by taking a large number of photographs over many revolutions of the bearing. This gives frames covering 0 to 360° to the applied load. The angle to the applied load was indicated by the position of the cantilever beam relative to a fixed protractor on the bearing outer race. Radial loads were applied vertically at the 360 (0) degree mark on the protractor. Static photographs with the cantilever beam at 90, 180, and 270 degrees to the vertical clearly indicated positive, zero, and negative deflections consistent with the weight of 19.05 mm (0.750 in) steel balls.

Figure 3 shows one of the ball contact force transducers as constructed.
**Force Transducer Calibration**

The force transducing cantilever beam was assembled into the separator with epoxy resin with the Teflon spacing element also epoxied in place. The separator was held in a small vise and loaded with a wire hook positioned at the estimated ball contact location. A small weight pan and 6.35 mm (0.250 in.) balls were used to load the cantilever beam. Cantilever deflections were photographed. Figure 4 gives the force-deflection relation for the stiffest cantilever beam used (61.8 N/mm). The permanent deformation evident in Fig. 4 did not affect ball force measurements as forces encountered did not exceed 27.5 N (6.2lb.). Table 3 gives values of spring constant and bearings used in the course of investigation.

**Experimental Procedure**

The lubricating oil used throughout the tests was a 5-centistoke neopentyl polyol (tetra) ester. This is a type II oil which conforms to specification MIL-L-23699. Test bearing inlet oil was heated and controlled to 485° K (150±2°F).

The Separator Study Machine bearing rig was started with a 500 lb thrust load and brought up to speed, the desired load condition applied, the prism synchronized with the separator and 100 to 200 photographs taken. Film used was Kodak 2475 Recording Film. It was cut into lengths fitting stainless steel reels and developed in a small tank with HC 110 developer, dilution A, for 30 minutes at laboratory room temperature. This seemed to give images of adequate contrast, with background fog just beginning to be noticeable on fresh film.
Data Analysis

After chemical processing of the film was completed the film was respliced and each frame was numbered.

The film was read with a Benson-Lehner model N-2 film reader capable of indicating 4 digits with the least digit representing 0.005 mm (0.0002 in.) in the film image. The film images, however, varied in density and sharpness from frame to frame due to variation in Xenon flash intensity, duration, and jitter in flash initiation among the four Xenon flash tubes, as well as from oil splash in the bearing chamber and on the bearing chamber window.

Readings were taken by aligning a cross-hair onto the lowest edge of the notch for R1, the bottom of the beam end for R2, the top of the beam end for R3, and the top of the notch for R4. The computer program listed in Appendix I was used to calculate differences R2-R1, R3-R1, R4-R1, R3-R2, R4-R3, and R4-R2. From R4-R1 and R3-R2 a consistency check was available to pull out or correct obviously defective readings as the notch dimension and beam height should always be of constant value. After subtraction of undeflected (zero) readings, the other four differences give four separate indications of the beam deflection in that film frame.

The computer program also calculated average values of notch size for the photo set and normalized the deflection indications on the average notch size to compensate for image size variation with focus setting. It then scales the deflections to the lineal measured notch dimension. The deflection indications are then multiplied by the spring constant determined in the force transducer calibration, and are listed and plotted by a Calcomp plotter.

Figure 5 is representative of photographs obtained.
It was possible to determine cage to shaft speed ratio with some accuracy over 10 successive photographs of multiple shaft revolutions from the following considerations.

The derotating prism is synchronized to rotate at half the separator speed thus producing a stationary image of the separator to be photographed. Protractors which are mounted on the stationary outer race and on the rotating inner race are visible in the photographs. Four Xenon flash tubes with a flash duration of 50 microseconds permit clear instantaneous photographs of the stationary separator and stop the motion of the protractor images. Typically 100 to 200 photographs were taken at a cine frame rate of 16 per second for each case investigated.

In these photographs the angle turned through by the separator (cage) can be determined from the difference in angle on the stationary outer race protractor between two consecutive frames. Thus,

\[
2\Delta \theta_p = \Delta \theta_c = \Delta \theta_o = \left( \frac{C}{W_s} \right) W_s \Delta t
\]

where:

- \( \Delta \theta_p \) = true prism angle turned through
- \( \Delta \theta_c \) = true cage angle turned through
- \( \Delta \theta_o \) = angle difference +360° x number of revolutions between photographs
- \( \frac{W_c}{W_s} \) = separator to shaft speed ratio in the operating bearing
- \( W_s \) = shaft speed
- \( \Delta t \) = time between photographs

The protractors are engraved with angle increasing in the direction of shaft rotation. The shaft turns through a greater angle than does the separator; consequently, the cage photographs centered on the transducer in the cage show the inner race angles decreasing. The
true angle that the shaft has turned through in the 1/16 second between successive frames may be determined from the protractor angles photographed by

\[
\Delta \theta_s = \Delta \theta_o - \Delta \theta_s = \frac{W_c}{W_s} \Delta t - W_s \Delta t
\]  

(2)

where:

\( \Delta \theta_s \) = angle difference on inner race protractor between photographs

\( \Theta_s t \) = true angle turned through by the shaft in time \( \Delta t \)

From equation 2, then \( \Delta \theta_s = \Delta \theta_o - \Delta \theta_s \), and \( W_c \Delta t = \Delta \theta_c \),

\( W_s \Delta t = \Delta \theta_s \) so:

\[
\frac{W_c}{W_s} = \frac{\Delta \theta_o}{\Delta \theta_o - \Delta \theta_s}
\]  

(3)

where \( \Delta \theta_s \) is a negative number.

Care must be taken in calculating angle differences \( \Delta \theta_o \) and \( \Delta \theta_s \) between photographs and in using equation (3). Multiple revolutions of shaft and separator occur without this being apparent in the photographs. At 16 frames per second with a nominal value of 0.441 for \( W_c / W_s \) the ranges of angle differences given in Table 4 may be anticipated.

To obtain the true angle of rotation of the cage between successive frames, it is necessary to:
1. Subtract the angle read from the reference point of the separator in the photograph from that read in the i-1 frame.

2. Determine the number of full rotations between frames using Table 4.

3. Add the number of full rotations to the difference found in step 1.

These considerations led to the cage/shaft speed ratios that appear on the cage force figure captions and in the cage/shaft speed ratio versus load figures.

Results and Discussion

This investigation was undertaken to experimentally evaluate ball to cage contact forces. It was subsequently noted that information on cage to inner race land contact force, cage to inner race land operating clearance, and cage to shaft speed ratios could also be extracted from the data obtained.

Ball to Cage Contact Forces

The principal results of this investigation are the ball to cage contact forces shown in Figures 6-8. These show the ball force on the cage as a function of ball location in the bearing. Ball location is measured clockwise from the centerline of the radial load at 0° (360°).

Table 2 summarizes the shaft speeds, loads, spring constants, figure identification system, and loads used in the investigation.

Different spring constants were necessary as the investigation progressed from 1000 to 4000 rpm and to higher speeds. Larger forces were
encountered and cantilever deflections approaching the ball to cage pocket clearance were observed.

Data was obtained at 1000 rpm with a spring constant of 1.49 N/mm (8.51 lb/in). These forces were small and of similar nature to those at higher speeds. The 1000 rpm results are not presented as they are too small to be visible on the scales used to present the higher speed results. Centrifugal force at 12000 rpm deflected the 17.2 N/mm (98.2 lb/in) beam out to contact the cage so that friction limited the motion of the cantilever.

All the data at 12000 rpm was taken with the 61.8 N/mm (353 lb/in) spring constant cantilever. Some lower speed cases were also run with the larger spring constant cantilevers.

Positive forces in the figures are those exerted by balls tending to accelerate the cage. Negative forces are those exerted by balls tending to retard or decelerate the cage. In general the stiffer cantilever beam deflecting elements indicate greater forces, with more scatter in the film readings.

There does appear to be a correlation between the magnitude of the ball-cage forces measured and the stiffness of the beam. For a given load and speed condition the range of ball-cage forces is always lowest for the 4.73 N/mm beam and reasonably equal for the 17.2 and 61.8 N/mm beams.

This may be a result of a "fixed displacement" aspect of ball motion whereby ball-cage forces are created when the cage constrains the ball from accelerating or decelerating as ball kinematic considerations dictate.

Apparently the 4.73 N/mm beam permits the ball to move as it will with only minor interactive forces generated by the beam. The forces generated by the 17.2 and 61.8 N/mm beams seem to be nearly
the same. This may be an indication that the maximum possible
traction forces have been developed at the ball-raceway contacts
for the particular load and speed condition.

Table 5 tabulates the variation in force range with spring
constant.

Figures 9 and 10 summarize the variation of magnitude and location
of cage forces with speed for radially loaded bearings. Figure 11
summarizes the variation of magnitude of cage forces with speed for
thrust loaded bearings. As might be expected the equally loaded balls in
thrust loaded cases do not show much variation in cage force with ball
location within the bearing.

The approximately 1 lb. negative force in pure thrust loaded
cases indicates the balls are decelerating (retarding) the cage uni-
formly. This is consistent with the cage being driven by the higher
speed shaft surface on which the cage is guided.

Centrifugal force moves the tip of the cantilever beam out by a
noticeable amount in photographs taken at 12000 rpm. It is felt that
the radial centrifugal deflections do not affect the deflection charac-
teristics of the beam in the tangential direction. It was reasoned
that the portion of the beam that is bent by the ball is only that part
extending from a fixed end in one rail of the cage to the center of the
ball pocket where contact with the ball takes place. The larger portion
of the beam extends from the center of the ball pocket and through the
other rail of the cage. It is acting as a straight pointer to magnify
the deflection at the center of the cage pocket. Over the part of
the beam stressed in bending the radial deflection is small compared
to beam dimensions.
Cage to Inner Race Land Contact Force

From the data of Figures 6, 7, and 8 it was possible to derive the force between the cage and its guiding contact with the inner race land. This was obtained by taking horizontal and vertical components of each force point as plotted in Figures 6, 7, and 8. Adding vertical and horizontal forces in an 18 degree sector, and dividing by the number of forces in the sector gave the average force one of the 20 balls would exert on the cage. The sum of the 20 ball forces should equal the resultant force that the inner race must exert on the cage. The angular location of the resultant force was obtained by taking the arc tangent of the ratio of horizontal to vertical force components. Figure 12 summarizes the magnitude and direction of the cage to inner race land force due to ball contact forces for various speeds and loads. It should be noted that this did not include the 3.5N (0.78 lb) weight of the cage.

Cage to Inner Race Land Operating Clearance

Figure 13 shows the separation between the cage and the inner race as a function of location from the zero degree index on the stationary outer race protractor. What appears in Figure 13 to be cage to inner race contact may actually be a close approach or small clearance that was shadowed by the optical angle and projection of the inner race image onto the cage image in the film plane. It appears that cage motion is somewhat erratic in the 12000 rpm speed case. The thrust loaded condition indicated an almost constant cage to inner race clearance. A clearance was visible in every one of the photographs read for the thrust loaded case.

The location of the cage to shaft contact indicated in Fig. 13a seems to agree with that of Fig. 12b. Figure 13c likewise agrees with
Fig. 12b. Figure 13b, however, indicates cage to shaft contact somewhere between 45 and 190 degrees, possibly centered at 120 degrees much of the time, while the corresponding point in Fig. 12b was found to be located at 40 degrees. It would seem that there are uncertainties in the cage force measurements and their locations that are not always averaged away by the simple device of calculating an average force per ball and adding the 20 ball to cage forces vectorially to arrive at a cage to shaft resultant force.

Cage to Shaft Speed Ratios

Figure 14 shows the cage to shaft speed ratios calculated by the method described in the section Data Analysis. It may be noted that data taken before January 12, 1977 (also identified by the spring constant of 4.7 N/mm) were taken with a PWA 50611 bearing while the balance of the data was taken with a PWA 506110 bearing. The different spring constants used may have influenced the cage motion through their effect on cage forces. It is also possible that internal bearing clearances changed due to changes in temperatures of bearing components. The bearings used were of split inner race construction with presumably some gothic arch to the inner race surfaces to prevent ball contact with radial oil passages between the races.

All data obtained fell between cage to shaft speed ratios of 0.465 and 0.433. There was a general trend for cage to shaft speed ratio to decrease with load. It would seem that the loads employed did not encourage skidding, and that the cage to shaft speed ratio variations observed were due to deflections of bearing components due to load and temperature.
Conclusion

Ball to cage contact forces were evaluated experimentally. They appear to be greatest in radially loaded bearings operating at high speed, and are of the order of 25 N (5 lb) at the maximum. Stiffer cantilever beam deflecting elements indicated larger forces, however, the 17.2 and 61.6 N/mm beams gave comparable results. Resultant cage to inner race land forces vary in a similar manner with values up to 20 N (4 lb). Resultant force as used here is the vector sum around the bearing of the average forces on each ball, and is equal to the vector sum of cage to shaft normal and tangential force components. Cage to shaft speed ratios indicated that the load conditions employed did not encourage skidding.
References


2. Gupta, P.K., Transient Ball Motion and Skid in Ball Bearings


FIG. 1-A SEPARATOR STUDY MACHINE
FIG. 1b SCHEMATIC OF SHAFT ASSEMBLY
FIG. 1c OPTICAL PATHS THROUGH THE BEARING SCANNER.
FIG. 2 TEST BEARING IN SEPARATOR STUDY MACHINE
FIG. 3 BALL CONTACT FORCE TRANSDUCER
BEAM DEFLECTION
STATIC CALIBRATION
JAN 27, 1977
0.83 X 4.8 MM CROSS SECTION

FIG. 4 SAMPLE FORCE
TRANSUDER CALIBRATION
(61.8 N/mm BEAM)
FIG. 5 EXAMPLE OF PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN
0 N (0 LB) THRUST LOAD
356 N (80 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4011 RPM 11/17/76-1
0.4435 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 1

FIG. 6a-4 73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD

360 N (80 LB) RADIAL LOAD

4068 RPM 01/19/77-1

0.4350 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6a-17.2 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
360 N (80 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4028 RPM 05/24/77-5
0.4480 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6a-61.8 N/mm

27
ON (0 LB) THRUST LOAD
667 N (150 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4017 RPM 11/17/76-2
0.4406 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 1

FIG. 6b-4.73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
870 N (150 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4070 RPM 01/19/77-2
0.4336 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6b-17.2 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
670 N (150 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4037 RPM 05/24/77-8
0.4471 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6b-61.8 N/mm
0 N (0 LB) THRUST LOAD
1334 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4018 RPM 11/17/76-3
0.4400 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 1

FIG. 6c-4.73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4069 RPM 01/19/77-3
0.4331 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6c-17.2 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
1340 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4036 RPM 05/24/77
0.4447 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6c-61.8 N/mm
0 N (0 LB) THRUST LOAD
4448 N (1000 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4018 RPM 11/17/76-4
0.4345 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 1

FIG. 6d-4

73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
4450 N (1000 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4066 RPM 01/19/77-4
0.4333 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6d-17.2 N/mm
O THRUST LOAD
4450 N (1000 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4037 RPM 05/24/77-8
0.4350 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6d-61.8 N/mm
2220 N (500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
4034 RPM 10/12/76-4
0.4509 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6e-4, 73 N/mm
2220 N (500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
3987 RPM 01/18/77-4
0.4479 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6e-17.2 N/mm
6670 N (1500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
4041 RPM 10/12/76-5
0.4450 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6f-4.73 N/mm
6670 N (1500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
3987 RPM 01/18/77-5
0.4416 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6f-17.2 N/mm
13350 N (3000 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
4040 RPM 10/12/78-6
0.4400 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6g-4.73 N/mm
13340 N (3000 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
3977 RPM 01/18/77-6
0.4408 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 6g-17.2 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
360 N (80 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8095 RPM 01/05/77-1
0.4650 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7a-4.73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
360 N (80 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8082 RPM 01/12/77-2
0.4558 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7a-17.2 N/mm
0 THRUST
360 N (80 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8090 RPM 02/22/77-2
0.4570 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7a-61.8 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
670 N (150 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8099 RPM 01/05/77-2
0.4643 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7b-4.73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
670 N (150 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8089 RPM 01/12/77-3
0.4543 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7b-17.2 N/mm
FIG. 7b-61.8 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8097 RPM 01/05/77-3
0.4622 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7c-4.73 N/mm
O THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8087 RPM 01/12/77-4
0.4526 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 2

FIG. 7c-17.2 N/mm
FIG. 7c-61.8 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
4450 N (1000 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8084 RPM 01/05/77-4
0.4525 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7d-4 7.73 N/mm
0 THRUST LOAD
4450 N (1000 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8078 RPM 01/12/77-5
0.4433 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7d-17.2 N/mm
FIG. 7d-61.8 N/mm
2225 N (500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 N (0 LB) RADIAL LOAD
8000 RPM 12/31/76-1
0.4448 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 1

FIG. 7e-4.73 N/mm
FIG. 7e-17.2 N/mm
2220 N (500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
8070 RPM 02/22/77-6
0.4690 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7e-61.8 N/mm
6675 N (1500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
8000 RPM 12/31/76-2
0.4412 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7f-4.73 N/mm
6670 N (1500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
8063 RPM 01/18/77-2
0.4500 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7f-17.2 N/mm
6670 N (1500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
8035 RPM 03/04/77-2
0.4486 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7f-61.8 N/mm
FIG. 7g-4. 73 N/mm
1330 N (3000 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
6063 RPM 01/18/77-3
0.4432 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7g-17.2 N/mm
13330 N (3000 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
8023 RPM 03/04/77-1
0.4438 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 7g-61.8 N/in
O THRUST LOAD

360 N (80 Lb) RADIAL LOAD

11969 RPM 02/03/77-1

0.4454 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 8a-61.8 N/mm
FIG. 85-61.8 N/mm
0 THRUST
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
11989 RPM 02/04/77-1
0.4504 CAGE/ SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 2

FIG. 8c-61.8 N/mm
2220 N (500 LB) THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
12000 RPM 02/03/77-4
0.4483 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING NO 2

FIG. 8c-61.8 N/mm 2
0 THRUST LOAD
4450 N (1000 LB) RADIAL LOAD
11978 RPM 02/04/77-2
0.4496 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 8d-61.8 N/mm
2220 N (500 lb) THRUST LOAD
4450 N (1000 lb) RADIAL LOAD
12000 RPM 02/03/77-5
0.4483 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO
READING #2

FIG. 8d-61.8 N/mm²
2220 N (500 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
11954 RPM 02/01/77-2
0.4522 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 8e-61.8 N/mm
6670 N (1500 Lb Thrust Load)
0 Radial Load
11782 RPM 02/01/77-4
0.4435 Cage/Shaft Speed Ratio

FIG. 8f-61.8 N/mm
13350 N (3000 LB) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
11782 RPM 02/01/77-5
0.4421 CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO

FIG. 8g-61.8 N/mm
FIGURE 9a Cage Force Magnitude Versus Shaft Speed, 360 N Radial Load
FIGURE 9b Cage Force Magnitude Versus Shaft Speed, 670 N Radial Load
FIGURE 9c Cage Force Magnitude Versus Shaft Speed, 1330 N Radial Load
FIGURE 9d Cage Force Magnitude Versus Shaft Speed, 4450 N Radial Load
Figura 10a. Ubicaciones de fuerzas de aceleración y deceleración de la caja como función de la velocidad del eje, carga radial de 360 N.

- *Fuerzas de aceleración*: 
  - K = 61.8 N/mm
  - K = 17.2 N/mm
  - K = 4.7 N/mm

- *Fuerzas de deceleración*:

**ángulo desde carga aplicada**

**grados**

**400**

**200**

**12000 RPM**

**8000**

**4000**
FIGURE 10b Locations of Accelerating and Decelerating Cage Forces as a Function of Shaft Speed, 670 N Radial Load
FIGURE 10c Locations of Accelerating and Decelerating Forces as a Function of Shaft Speed, 1330 N Radial Load
FIGURE 10d Locations of Accelerating and Decelerating Cage Forces as a Function of Shaft Speed, 4450 N Radial Load

- $K=61.8$ N/mm
- $K=17.2$ N/mm
- $K=4.7$ N/mm
Positive Forces Accelerate Cage
Negative Forces Decelerate Cage
--- K=61.8 N/mm
--- K=17.2 N/mm
--- K=4.7 N/mm

FIGURE 11a Cage Force Magnitude Range Versus Shaft Speed, 2220 N
Axial Load
Positive Force Accelerate Cage
Negative Forces Decelerate Cage

- - - K = 61.8 N/mm
- - - K = 17.2 N/mm
- - - K = 4.7 N/mm

FIGURE 11b Cage Force Magnitude Range Versus Shaft Speed, 5670 N Thrust Load
FORCE N

Positive Forces Accelerate Cage
Negative Forces Decelerate Cage

— K = 61.8 N/mm
— K = 17.2 N/mm
— K = 4.7 N/mm

FIGURE 11c Cage Force Magnitude Range Versus Shaft Speed, 13330 N Thrust Load
FIGURE 12a Resultant Cage Force Versus Shaft Speed
Figure 12b: Resultant Cage Force Location Versus Shaft Speed

- ○ 360 N Radial Load
- □ 670 N Radial Load
- △ 1330 N Radial Load
- ◇ 4450 N Radial Load
0 THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
4037 RPM 05/24/77-7
CAGE DISPLACEMENT

FIG. 13a
0 THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
5027 RPM 05/24/77-3
CAGE DISPLACEMENT

FIG. 13b
0 THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 Lb) RADIAL LOAD
8095 RPM 02/22/77-4
CAGE DISPLACEMENT

FIG. 13c
0 THRUST LOAD
1330 N (300 LB) RADIAL LOAD
11969 RPM 02/04/77
CAGE DISPLACEMENT

CLEARANCE (MM)

ANGLE (DEGREES)

FIG. 13d
13330 N (3000 lb) THRUST LOAD
0 RADIAL LOAD
8063 RPM 01/18/77-3
CAGE DISPLACEMENT
\[ \begin{align*}
\bullet \text{4000 RPM} & \quad 11/17/76-1 \quad 11/17/76-2 \quad 11/17/76-3 \quad 11/17/76-4 \quad K=4.7 \text{ N/MM} \\
\square \text{4000 RPM} & \quad 1/19/77-1 \quad 1/19/77-2 \quad 1/19/77-3 \quad 1/19/77-4 \quad K=17.2 \text{ N/MM} \\
\triangle \text{4000 RPM} & \quad 5/24/77-5 \quad 5/24/77-6 \quad 5/24/77-7 \quad 5/24/77-8 \quad K=61.8 \text{ N/MM}
\end{align*} \]

**Fig. 14a**

**Cage/Shaft Speed Ratio $4 \times 10^{-1}$**

**Radial Force (Newtons) $\times 10^2$**

91
CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO vs. RADIAL FORCE (NEWTONS) * 10^2

- 8000 RPM 1/5/77-1 1/5/77-2 1/5/77-3 1/5/77-4 K=4.7 N/MM
- 8000 RPM 1/12/77-2 1/12/77-3 1/12/77-4 1/12/77-5 K=17.2 N/MM
- 8000 RPM 2/22/77-2 2/22/77-3 2/22/77-4 2/22/77-5 K=61.8 N/MM
© 12000 RPM 2/3/77-1 2/3/77-2 2/4/77-1 2/4/77-2 K=61.8 N/MM
© 12000 RPM 2/3/77-4 2/3/77-5 K=61.8 N/MM 2220 N THRUST LOAD

FIG. 14c
4000 RPM 10/12/76-4 10/12/76-5 10/12/76-6 K=4.7 N/MM

4000 RPM 01/18/77-4, 01/18/77-5, 01/18/77-6 K=17.2 N/MM

THRUST FORCE (NEWTONS) *10^2

FIG. 14d
8000 RPM 12/31/76-1 12/31/76-2 12/31/76-3 K=4.7 N/MM
8000 RPM 1/18/77-1 1/18/77-2 1/18/77-3 K=17.2 N/MM
8000 RPM 02/22/77-6, 03/04/77-2, 03/04/77-1 K=61.8 N/MM
○ 12000 RPM 01/13/77-1, 01/13/77-2, 01/20/77-2 $K = 17.2$ N/MM
□ 12000 RPM 02/01/77-2, 02/01/77-4, 02/01/77-5 $K = 61.8$ N/MM

**FIG. 14f**

CAGE/SHAFT SPEED RATIO $\times 10^{-1}$

THRUST FORCE (NEWTONS) $\times 10^2$
Table 1
Test Bearing Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>P/N 506110</th>
<th>P/N 506111</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raceway Curvatures</td>
<td>52% Inner and Outer</td>
<td>52% Inner and Outer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearing Contact Angle</td>
<td>24°-27°**</td>
<td>24°-27°**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearing Mat'l, Races, Balls</td>
<td>CEVM-M-50-(R, 60 min)</td>
<td>CEVM-M-50 (R, 60 min)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cage Mat'l</td>
<td>AMS-6415 (Rc 28-33)</td>
<td>AMS-6415 (Rc 28-33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cage Plating</td>
<td>Silver Plate Per AMS 2412</td>
<td>Silver Plate Per AMS 2412</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cage Plating Thickness, inches</td>
<td>.001-.002</td>
<td>.001-.002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball &amp; Ring Stabilization Temp.</td>
<td>600°F</td>
<td>600°F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balls</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal Dia., inches</td>
<td>0.750</td>
<td>0.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allowable Variation in any Indiv. Ball Dia. &amp; Sphericity, inches</td>
<td>0.000020 max.</td>
<td>0.000020 max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Radial Clearance*</td>
<td>.0048-.0060***</td>
<td>.0054-.0060 ***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axial Play inches</td>
<td>.026 max.****</td>
<td>.024 max.****</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diametral Cage Clearance, in.</td>
<td>.016-.026</td>
<td>.019-.025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearing Inner Dia., inches</td>
<td>4.33070-4.33045</td>
<td>4.33070-4.33045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearing Outer Dia., inches</td>
<td>6.8898-6.8894</td>
<td>6.8898-6.8894</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inner Race Land Dia., inches</td>
<td>5.343 min.</td>
<td>5.333 min.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outer Race Shoulder Dia., inches</td>
<td>6.077 max.</td>
<td>6.090 max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ball Pitch Dia., in.</td>
<td>5.650</td>
<td>5.635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bearing Width</td>
<td>1.1811-1.1761</td>
<td>1.1811-1.1761</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Same as Total Diametral Clearance
**Measured Under 60 lb Thrust Load
***Measured Under 33 lb Radial Load
****Measured Under 22 lb Thrust Load
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure 6 4000 RPM Nominal Shaft Speed</th>
<th>Figure 7 8000 RPM Nominal Shaft Speed</th>
<th>Figure 8 12000 RPM Nominal Shaft Speed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring Constant</td>
<td>Load (Lb)</td>
<td>Load (Lb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 6</td>
<td>N/mm 360 80 Radial</td>
<td>N/mm 360 80 Radial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6a</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>7a</td>
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<tr>
<td>6a</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>7a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6a</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>7a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6b</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>7a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6b</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>7b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6b</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>7b</td>
</tr>
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<td>61.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>6c</td>
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<td>7d</td>
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<td>6f</td>
<td>4.73</td>
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<td>6670</td>
<td>7f</td>
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<td>6f</td>
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<td>6g</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>7g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6g</td>
<td>13350</td>
<td>7g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6g</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>7g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6g</td>
<td>13350</td>
<td>7g</td>
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Table 2

SPEED, LOAD, AND SPRING CONSTANTS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Installed in Machine</th>
<th>Spring Constant N/mm</th>
<th>Spring Constant Lb/in</th>
<th>Bearing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 1976</td>
<td>1.49</td>
<td>8.51</td>
<td>PWA 506110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 18, 1976</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>27.0</td>
<td>PWA 506111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 12, 1977</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>98.2</td>
<td>PWA 506110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 28, 1977</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>353.0</td>
<td>PWA 506110</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Table 4
CALCULATED NUMBER OF SHAFT REVOLUTIONS BETWEEN PHOTOGRAPHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\Delta \theta_{rev}$</th>
<th>$W_s = (\Delta \theta_{rev}) \cdot \frac{16 \times 60}{0.441}$</th>
<th>$-\Delta \theta_{rev}$</th>
<th>$W_s = (-\Delta \theta_{rev}) \cdot \frac{16 \times 60}{-0.559}$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0 to 1</td>
<td>0 to 2,177 rpm</td>
<td>0 to -1</td>
<td>0 to 1,717 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 2</td>
<td>2,177 to 4,354 rpm</td>
<td>-1 to -2</td>
<td>1,717 to 3,435 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 to 3</td>
<td>4,354 to 6,531 rpm</td>
<td>-2 to -3</td>
<td>3,435 to 5,152 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 to 4</td>
<td>6,531 to 8,707 rpm</td>
<td>-3 to -4</td>
<td>5,152 to 6,869 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 to 5</td>
<td>8,707 to 10,884 rpm</td>
<td>-5 to -6</td>
<td>6,869 to 8,587 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 to 6</td>
<td>10,884 to 13,061 rpm</td>
<td>-6 to -7</td>
<td>8,587 to 10,304 rpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>-7 to -8</td>
<td>10,304 to 12,021 rpm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For a cage to shaft speed ratio of 0.441*
Table 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speed RPM</th>
<th>Thrust Load N</th>
<th>Radial Load N</th>
<th>Spring Constant N/mm</th>
<th>Force and Range Max to Min N</th>
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<tr>
<td>4011</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>2 to -2</td>
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<td>4068</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>7 to -10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4028</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>8 to -8</td>
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<td>4017</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>2.5 to -2.5</td>
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<td>17.2</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>10 to -9</td>
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<td>4018</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1330</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>2 to -2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4069</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1330</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>5 to -12</td>
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<td>1330</td>
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<td>4.73</td>
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<td>3977</td>
<td>13340</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>-2 to -5</td>
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<td>8095</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>5 to -4</td>
</tr>
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<td>8082</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>11 to -10</td>
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<td>8090</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>14 to -11</td>
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<td>8099</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>5 to -4</td>
</tr>
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Appendix I – Computer Program

```
DIMENSION R(300,4),ANGLE(300),FRCR(300),ANGL(300)
DIMENSION XLR(40),YLR(40)
DIMENSION LINE1(8),LINE2(8),LINE3(6),LINE4(8)
INTEGER R,ANGLE
ICN=0

READ (5,30) S,AK,N
30 FORMAT(2F15.0,I2)
!
WRITE (6,23)
23 FORMAT(1X,10H2R1,2R2,2R3,2R4,2R5,2R6,2R7,2R8,2R9,2R10,2R11,2R12)

CC 21 I=1,N

CC 30 ID(15,11)Z1,Z2,Z3,Z4,Z5,Z6

CC 31 FORMAT(1H1,8H1C1)

CC 34 X=Z1-ZR1, ZUR2-ZR2, ZUR3-ZR3, ZUR4-ZR4, ZUR5-ZR5, ZUR6-ZR6

CC 36 FORMAT(1H1,8H1C1)

CC 38 WRITE (6,46) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6

CC 42 WRITE (6,47) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6

CC 46 CONTINUE

CC 48 WRITE (6,54) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6

CC 52 WRITE (6,55) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6

CC 56 WRITE (6,56) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6

CC 60 WRITE (6,57) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6

CC 64 WRITE (6,58) ZU1,ZU2,ZU3,ZU4,ZU5,ZU6
```

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**Title and Subtitle**: BALL TO SEPARATOR CONTACT FORCES IN ANGULAR CONTACT BALL BEARINGS UNDER THRUST AND RADIAL LOADS

**Author(s)**: Lester J. Nypan

**Performing Organization Name and Address**: California State University, Northridge Northridge, California 91330

**Supplementary Notes**: Final report. Project manager, Harold H. Coe, Fluid System Components Division, NASA Lewis Research Center, Cleveland, Ohio.

**Abstract**: Experimental data is reported on ball to cage contact forces in a 110 mm bore ball bearing operating at speeds to 12,000 rpm under radial and thrust loads. Information is also reported on cage to inner race land contact force, cage to inner race land clearance, and cage to shaft speed ratios.