PREFACE
to the Fourth Edition

How many times do you have to do this to get it right, Norton?
THE EDITORS

The fourth edition is an evolutionary improvement over the third edition. See the updated *Preface to the First Edition* (overleaf) for more detailed information on the book's purpose and organization. Throughout this fourth edition many small improvements have been made to the discussion of a variety of topics in many chapters, based largely on user feedback, and all known errors have been corrected. Over 80 new problem and project assignments have been added. All of the problem figures are included as PDF files on the DVD so that students can easily print hard copies to work the solutions on. The entire *Hrones and Nelson Atlas of Coupler Curves* is provided as PDFs on the DVD.

The major addition is eighteen instructional videos on the attached DVD. These provide several lecture/demonstration tutorials on subjects such as position synthesis, coupler curves and cognates, the Grashof condition, etc. Others show real machinery that uses linkages, cams and gears for such tasks as spring manufacture, bottle printing and pick and place mechanisms for automated assembly. These are provided partly in response to feedback from professors who note that today's typical mechanical engineering student has never been exposed to real machinery. These videos may help in that regard. I also provide videos of two "virtual laboratories," that replicate the labs used in my courses at WPI. The videos show the same demonstrations I give my students, who are then required to take acceleration and force data from these running machines and compare them to their theoretical predictions of the same parameters. I also include complete files of the data taken, in spreadsheet format. The intent is to allow your students to do these exercises as virtual laboratories. See the DVD index for more information.

My programs, FOURBAR, FIVEBAR, SIXBAR, SLIDER, DYNACAM, ENGINE, and MATRIX have been revised, enhanced, and improved. All will now enlarge their windows to fit any screen and do units conversion. Online, context-sensitive help is built in (Web access required) and includes video tutorials on program use. These video tutorials are also on the DVD. These computer programs undergo frequent revision adding features and enhancements. Professors who adopt the book for a course may download the latest student versions of the programs from: http://www.designofmachinery.com/registered/professor.html.

Professor Wang's *Mechanism Simulation in a Multimedia Environment* containing over 100 *Working Model* (*WM*) files based on the book's figures and 19 *Matlab*® models for kinematic analysis and animation is still included. These *WM* models bring the text's figures to life with animation, graphs, and numerical output. For each of Professor Wang's simulations, a video file of the mechanism can be played independently of the *Working Model* program. A Web browser is used to navigate among hyperlinked HTML files that contain text, picture, video, *Matlab*, and *Working Model* files.

The *Working Model* 2D *Textbook Edition* (*WM*) program is included on the DVD, but it is **not** a full-featured version of the program. Students can build and test new mechanisms on the screen but the *WM Textbook Edition* as supplied does not allow the user to save or print a model. Professors should make their students aware of these limitations. Those who adopt the book can obtain information on enabling the *WM* program to save and print (but only for educational use). Register at the author's website: http://www.designofmachinery.com/registered/professor.html to get this information.

Some of the *Matlab* files supplied will analyze fourbar, slider crank, and inverted slider crank linkages and animate their motion. Other *Matlab* files calculate the tooth profile of an involute spur gear, show the geometric generation of an involute and the motion of an elliptic trammel. *Matlab* source code is provided, but the *Matlab* program is not. Extensive comments are provided within each *Matlab* file identifying the equations used from the text by number. The student can modify these models for other applications.

Robert L. Norton
Norfolk, Mass.
January, 2007

If you find any errors or have comments or suggestions for improvement, please email the author at *norton@wpi.edu*. Errata as discovered, and other book information, will be posted on the author's web site at http://www.designofmachinery.com.

PREFACE
to the First Edition

When I hear, I forget
When I see, I remember
When I do, I understand
ANCIENT CHINESE PROVERB

This text is intended for the kinematics and dynamics of machinery topics which are often given as a single course, or two-course sequence, in the junior year of most mechanical engineering programs. The usual prerequisites are first courses in statics, dynamics, and calculus. Usually, the first semester, or portion, is devoted to kinematics, and the second to dynamics of machinery. These courses are ideal vehicles for introducing the mechanical engineering student to the process of design, since mechanisms tend to be intuitive for the typical mechanical engineering student to visualize and create.

While this text attempts to be thorough and complete on the topics of analysis, it also emphasizes the synthesis and design aspects of the subject to a greater degree than most texts in print on these subjects. Also, it emphasizes the use of computer-aided engineering as an approach to the design and analysis of this class of problems by providing software that can enhance student understanding. While the mathematical level of this text is aimed at second- or third-year university students, it is presented *de novo* and should be understandable to the technical school student as well.

Part I of this text is suitable for a one-semester or one-term course in kinematics. Part II is suitable for a one-semester or one-term course in dynamics of machinery. Alternatively, both topic areas can be covered in one semester with less emphasis on some of the topics covered in the text.

The writing and style of presentation in the text is designed to be clear, informal, and easy to read. Many example problems and solution techniques are presented and spelled out in detail, both verbally and graphically. All the illustrations are done with computer-drawing or drafting programs. Some scanned photographic images are also included. The entire text, including equations and artwork, is printed directly from the author's computer disk by laser typesetting for maximum clarity and quality. Many suggested readings are provided in the bibliography. Short problems, and where appropriate, many longer, unstructured design project assignments are provided at the ends of chapters. These projects provide an opportunity for the students *to do and understand*.

The author's approach to these courses and this text is based on over 40 years' experience in mechanical engineering design, both in industry and as a consultant. He has taught these subjects since 1967, both in evening school to practicing engineers and in day school to younger students. His approach to the course has evolved a great deal in that time, from a traditional approach, emphasizing graphical analysis of many structured problems, through emphasis on algebraic methods as computers became available, through requiring students to write their own computer programs, to the current state described above.

The one constant throughout has been the attempt to convey the art of the design process to the students in order to prepare them to cope with *real* engineering problems in practice. Thus, the author has always promoted design within these courses. Only recently, however, has technology provided a means to more effectively accomplish this goal, in the form of the graphics microcomputer. This text attempts to be an improvement over those currently available by providing up-to-date methods and techniques for analysis and synthesis that take full advantage of the graphics microcomputer, and by emphasizing design as well as analysis. The text also provides a more complete, modern, and thorough treatment of cam design than existing texts in print on the subject.

The author has written seven interactive, student-friendly computer programs for the design and analysis of mechanisms and machines. These programs are designed to enhance the student's understanding of the basic concepts in these courses while simultaneously allowing more comprehensive and realistic problem and project assignments to be done in the limited time available than could ever be done with manual solution techniques, whether graphical or algebraic. Unstructured, realistic design problems which have many valid solutions are assigned. Synthesis and analysis are equally emphasized. The analysis methods presented are up to date, using vector equations and matrix techniques wherever applicable. Manual graphical analysis methods are de-emphasized. The graphics output from the computer programs allows the student to see the results of variation of parameters rapidly and accurately and reinforces learning.

These computer programs are distributed on DVD with this book, which also contains instructions for their use on any IBM compatible, Windows NT/2000/XT capable computer. Programs SLIDER, FOURBAR, FIVEBAR and SIXBAR analyze the kinematics and dynamics of those types of linkages. Program DYNACAM allows the design and dynamic analysis of cam-follower systems. Program ENGINE analyzes the slider-crank linkage as used in the internal combustion engine and provides a complete dynamic analysis of single and multicylinder engine inline, V, and W configurations, allowing the mechanical dynamic design of engines to be done. Program MATRIX is a general purpose linear equation system solver.

All these programs, except MATRIX, provide dynamic, graphical animation of the designed devices. The reader is strongly urged to make use of these programs in order to investigate the results of variation of parameters in these kinematic devices. The programs are designed to enhance and augment the text rather than be a substitute for it. The converse is also true. Many solutions to the book's examples and to the problem sets are provided on the DVD as files to be opened in these programs. Most of these solutions can be animated on the computer screen for a better demonstration of the concept than is possible on the printed page. The instructor and students are both encouraged to take advantage of the computer programs provided. Instructions for their use are in Appendix A.

The author's intention is that synthesis topics be introduced first to allow the students to work on some simple design tasks early in the term while still mastering the analysis topics. Though this is not the "traditional" approach to the teaching of this material, the author believes that it is a superior method to that of initial concentration on detailed analysis of mechanisms for which the student has no concept of origin or purpose.

Chapters 1 and 2 are introductory. Those instructors wishing to teach analysis before synthesis can leave Chapters 3 and 5 on linkage synthesis for later consumption. Chapters 4, 6, and 7 on position, velocity, and acceleration analysis are sequential and build upon each other. In fact, some of the problem sets are common among these three chapters so that students can use their position solutions to find velocities and then later use both to find the accelerations in the same linkages. Chapter 8 on cams is more extensive and complete than that of other kinematics texts and takes a design approach. Chapter 9 on gear trains is introductory. The dynamic force treatment in Part II uses matrix methods for the solution of the system simultaneous equations. Graphical force analysis is not emphasized. Chapter 10 presents an introduction to dynamic systems modeling. Chapter 11 deals with force analysis of linkages. Balancing of rotating machinery and linkages is covered in Chapter 12. Chapters 13 and 14 use the internal combustion engine as an example to pull together many dynamic concepts in a design context. Chapter 15 presents an introduction to dynamic systems modeling and uses the cam-follower system as the example. Chapters 3, 8, 11, 13, and 14 provide open ended project problems as well as structured problem sets. The assignment and execution of unstructured project problems can greatly enhance the student's understanding of the concepts as described by the proverb in the epigraph to this preface.