

NAL-UNI Lecture Series # 17

The 17th NAL-UNI Lecture Series on Rotor Dynamics and Vibrations opened on 17 December 2001. In these days, when electronics and software are the 'in-things', it was heartening to see that the lecture series attracted more than 30 participants in the mechanical engineering discipline. Most lectures were very informative. Starting with very basic aspects such as the definition of a rigid and flexible rotor, the lectures exposed intricate technologies that go into the making of a complex aeroengine. Not surprisingly, the majority of the lectures came from people involved in the development of the Kaveri engine. The significant contributions of NAL in this area also came into focus. Rotor diagnostics, health monitoring, rotor balancing, critical speed and response analysis, rotor and engine vibrations, and advanced bearings and support systems were among the topics discussed. One session was devoted to hands-on experience. Everyone who spoke during the feedback session spoke well of the course co-ordinated by Dr V Arun Kumar of the Propulsion Division.

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