

1 / 6 / 17

Linear and Parabolic Motion - Lesson 7

Newton's Laws, Free-Body Diagrams and Equilibrium

LI

- Know Newton's 3 Laws of Motion.
- Calculate missing tensions in static systems.
- Know and use Lami's Theorem for 3 forces.

SC

- Resolve forces in 2D.
- Draw a Free-Body Diagram (FBD) for an object.

Newton's Laws

1st Law : Every object continues in its state of rest or uniform velocity unless acted upon by a non-zero force.

2nd Law : If a non-zero force acts upon an object, then it is equal to the rate of change of momentum :

$$\underline{F} = \frac{d}{dt} \underline{p} = \frac{d}{dt} (m \underline{v}) = m \frac{d}{dt} \underline{v} = m \underline{a}$$

3rd Law : For a force \underline{F} acting from object A to object B, there is an equal and opposite force $-\underline{F}$ from B to A.

The **1st Law** can be written in equation form in various ways :

$$\underline{F} = \underline{0} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \underline{a} = \underline{0} \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \underline{v} = \text{constant vector}$$

If \underline{F}_{AB} is the force from A acting on B and \underline{F}_{BA} is the force from B acting on A, then the **3rd Law** can be written in equation form as :

$$\underline{F}_{BA} = -\underline{F}_{AB}$$

The non-zero force referred to in Newton's Laws means the net force (aka unbalanced force aka resultant of all forces) acting on the object

Free-Body Diagrams

A Free-Body Diagram (FBD) shows the forces acting on an object only; forces the object exerts on other objects are not shown.

FBD for Object at Rest on a Table

Upthrust



Weight

$$\text{Upthrust} = \text{Weight}$$

FBD for Aeroplane Flying at Constant Speed and Constant Height

Upthrust



$$\text{Upthrust} = \text{Weight}$$

Engine
Force

Drag

$$\text{Engine Force} = \text{Drag}$$

Weight

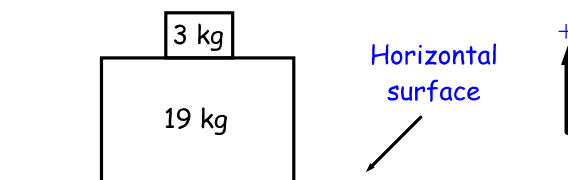
Equilibrium

In equilibrium, the net force is 0.

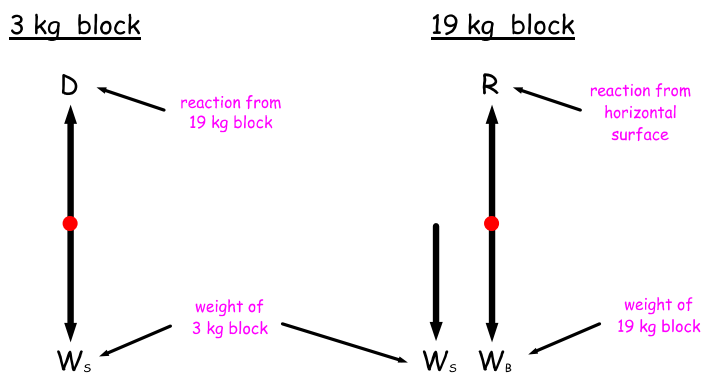
Example 1

A mass of 19 kg rests on a horizontal surface and a 3 kg block rests on the 19 kg block. The whole system is in equilibrium.

Find the reaction between the masses and that between the larger mass and the horizontal surface in terms of g (the acceleration due to gravity).



Draw a FBD for each block :



Equilibrium for each block means that the net force on each block is $\underline{0}$:

$$D \mathbf{j} + W_s (-\mathbf{j}) = \underline{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad D = W_s$$

$$R \mathbf{j} + W_s (-\mathbf{j}) + W_B (-\mathbf{j}) = \underline{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad R = W_s + W_B$$

The reaction between the masses has magnitude D ; the first equation gives, using $W_s = 3g$,

$$D = 3g \text{ N}$$

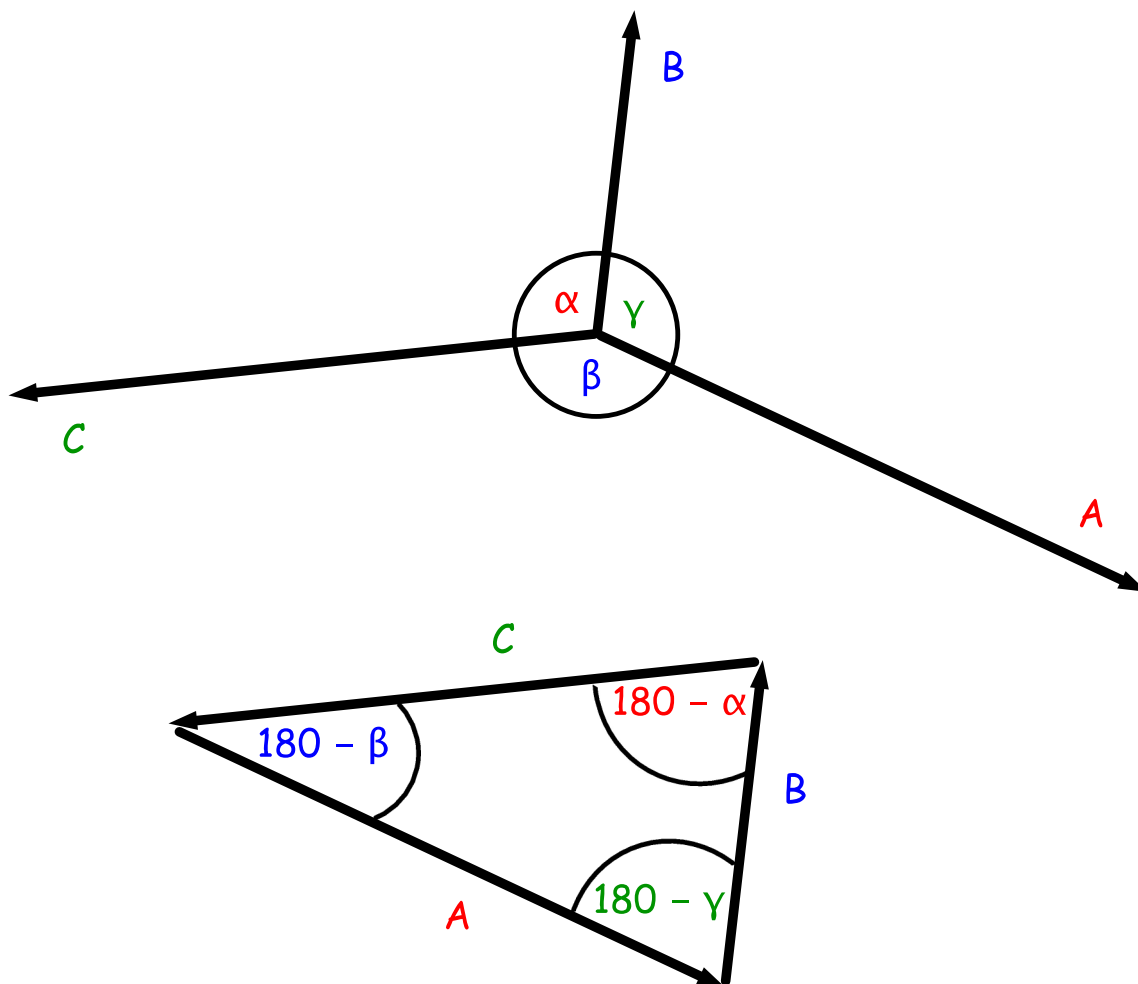
The reaction between the the larger mass and the horizontal surface has magnitude R ; the second equation gives, using $W_B = 19g$,

$$R = 3g + 19g$$

$$\Rightarrow R = 22g \text{ N}$$

Lami's Theoremin the same
planeat the same
pointnot on the
same line

For 3 coplanar, concurrent and non-collinear forces

 A, B, C , in equilibrium :

Sine Rule gives,

$$\frac{A}{\sin (180 - \alpha)} = \frac{B}{\sin (180 - \beta)} = \frac{C}{\sin (180 - \gamma)}$$

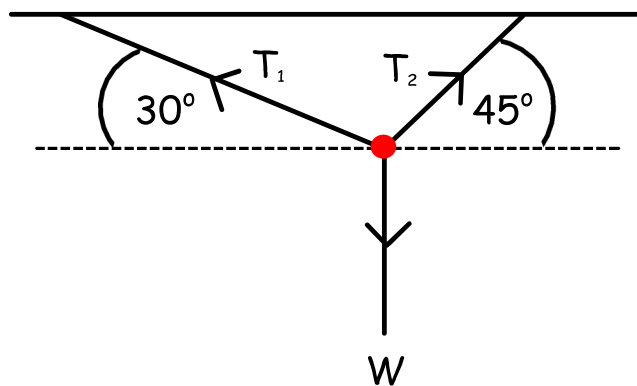
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{A}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{B}{\sin \beta} = \frac{C}{\sin \gamma}}$$

(Lami's Theorem)

Example 2

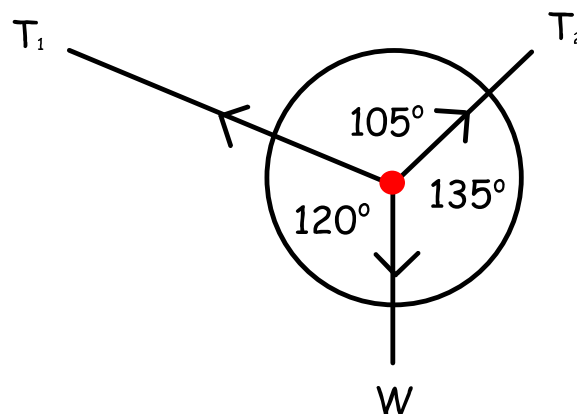
A mass of 5 kg is suspended in equilibrium by two light, inextensible strings which make angles of 30° and 45° with the horizontal.

Calculate the tension in each string.



As all 3 forces emanate from the same point (concurrent), act in the same plane ('x - y' plane; coplanar) and do not lie on the same straight line (non-collinear), Lami's Theorem can be applied.

To use Lami's Theorem, we need the angles between all the forces :



Lami's Theorem gives, remembering that $W = m g$,

$$\frac{W}{\sin 105^\circ} = \frac{T_1}{\sin 135^\circ} = \frac{T_2}{\sin 120^\circ}$$

$$T_1 = \frac{5 (9.8) \sin 135^\circ}{\sin 105^\circ}$$

\Rightarrow

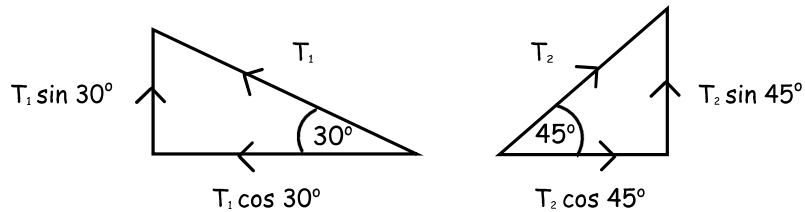
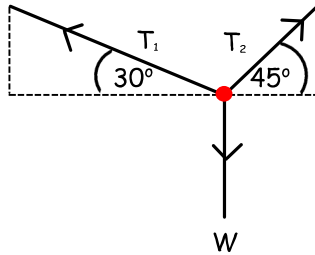
$$T_1 = 35.9 \text{ N (1 d.p.)}$$

$$T_2 = \frac{5 (9.8) \sin 120^\circ}{\sin 105^\circ}$$

\Rightarrow

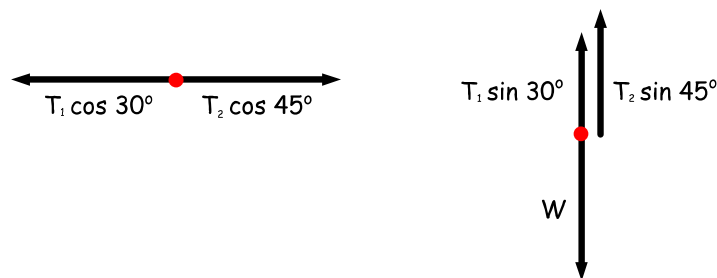
$$T_2 = 43.9 \text{ N (1 d.p.)}$$

This question can also be done by equating horizontal and vertical components of all forces



All Horizontal Forces

All Vertical Forces



Equilibrium means all horizontal forces add up to give the zero vector (and similarly for vertical). So, for horizontal,

$$T_1 \cos 30^\circ = T_2 \cos 45^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow T_1 = \frac{\cos 45^\circ}{\cos 30^\circ} T_2$$

$$\Rightarrow T_1 = 0.81649 \dots T_2$$

For vertical,

$$W = T_1 \sin 30^\circ + T_2 \sin 45^\circ$$

$$\Rightarrow 5(9.8) = 0.81649 \dots (\sin 30^\circ) T_2 + \sin 45^\circ T_2$$

$$\Rightarrow T_2 = \frac{49}{(0.40824 \dots + \sin 45^\circ)}$$

$$\Rightarrow T_2 = 43.9 \text{ N (1 d.p.)}$$

$$T_1 = 0.81649 \dots T_2$$

$$\Rightarrow T_1 = 35.9 \text{ N (1 d.p.)}$$

Example 3

Find the acceleration produced in a body of mass 2 kg subject to the forces $(14 \underline{i} + 3 \underline{j})$ N and $(-18 \underline{i} + \underline{j})$ N.

Also state the magnitude and direction of the acceleration.

The net force acting on the body is,

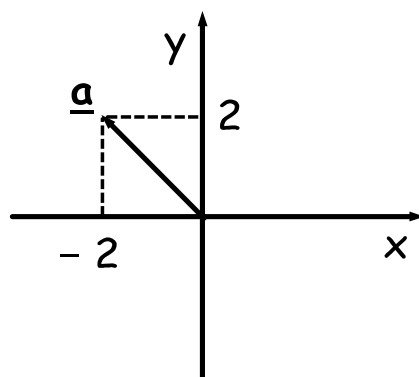
$$\underline{F} = (14 \underline{i} + 3 \underline{j}) + (-18 \underline{i} + \underline{j})$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{F} = -4 \underline{i} + 4 \underline{j}$$

$$\underline{F} = m \underline{a}$$

$$\therefore 2 \underline{a} = -4 \underline{i} + 4 \underline{j}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a} = (-2 \underline{i} + 2 \underline{j}) \text{ m s}^{-2}$$



Magnitude of acceleration : $\sqrt{8} \text{ m s}^{-2}$

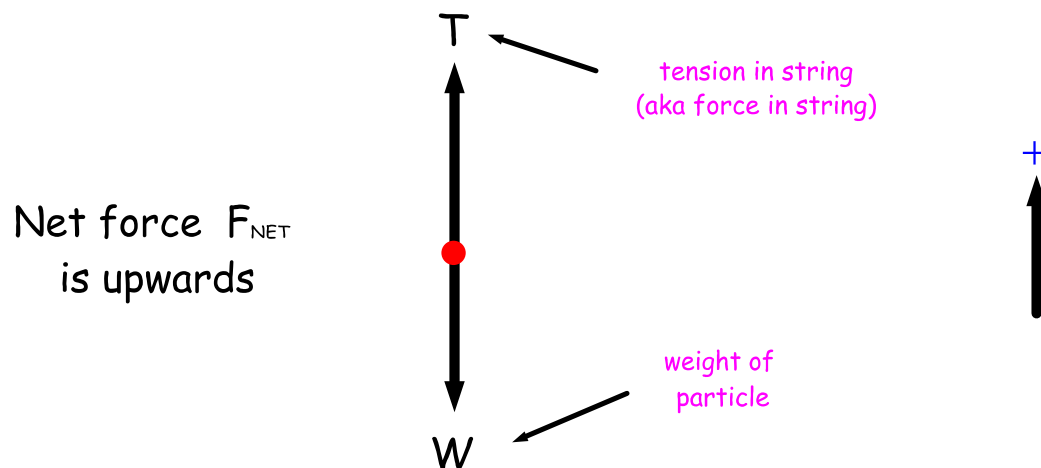
Direction of acceleration : 45° W of N

Example 4

A particle of mass 200 g is attached to the lower end of a string that is positioned vertically.

Find the force in the string when the string raises the particle with an acceleration of 2.4 m s^{-2} .

The FBD for the particle is :



$$F_{\text{NET}} = T - W$$

$$\therefore 0.2(2.4) = T - 0.2(9.8)$$

$$\Rightarrow T = 0.48 + 1.96$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{T = 2.44}$$

Force in string is 2.44 N upwards

Example 5

A particle of mass 8 kg moves with velocity $(2t^2 \underline{i} + 3 \underline{j} - 6t \underline{k}) \text{ m s}^{-1}$.

If the start of its motion occurs at $t = 0$ seconds, find the force vector acting on the particle 4 seconds after motion commences.

$$\underline{a}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \underline{v}(t)$$

$$\therefore \underline{a}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} (2t^2 \underline{i} + 3 \underline{j} - 6t \underline{k})$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{a}(t) = 4t \underline{i} - 6 \underline{k}$$

$$\underline{F}(t) = m \underline{a}(t)$$

$$\therefore \underline{F}(t) = 8(4t \underline{i} - 6 \underline{k})$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{F}(t) = 32t \underline{i} - 48 \underline{k}$$

$$\therefore \underline{F}(4) = 32(4) \underline{i} - 48 \underline{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{F}(4) = (128 \underline{i} - 48 \underline{k}) \text{ N}$$

Example 6

A particle of mass 3 kg is acted upon by a force given by $(27 \cos 3t \mathbf{i} - 45 \sin 5t \mathbf{j} + 36 \cos 4t \mathbf{k})$ N.

If the start of its motion occurs at $t = 0$ seconds, and the particle has velocity $-6 \mathbf{i} - 6 \mathbf{j}$ when $t = \pi/2$ seconds, find the velocity as a function of time.

$$\mathbf{F}(t) = m \mathbf{a}(t)$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{a}(t) = (1/3) \mathbf{F}(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{a}(t) = (1/3)(27 \cos 3t \mathbf{i} - 45 \sin 5t \mathbf{j} + 36 \cos 4t \mathbf{k})$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{a}(t) = 9 \cos 3t \mathbf{i} - 15 \sin 5t \mathbf{j} + 12 \cos 4t \mathbf{k}}$$

$$\mathbf{v}(t) = \int \mathbf{a}(t) dt$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{v}(t) = \int (9 \cos 3t \mathbf{i} - 15 \sin 5t \mathbf{j} + 12 \cos 4t \mathbf{k}) dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{v}(t) = 3 \sin 3t \mathbf{i} + 3 \cos 5t \mathbf{j} + 3 \sin 4t \mathbf{k} + \mathbf{C}}$$

$$\mathbf{v}(\pi/2) = -6 \mathbf{i} - 6 \mathbf{j} \text{ gives,}$$

$$\mathbf{C} = (-6 - 3(-1))\mathbf{i} + (-6 - 3(0))\mathbf{j} + (0 - 0)\mathbf{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\mathbf{C} = -3 \mathbf{i} - 6 \mathbf{j}}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{v}(t) = (3 \sin 3t - 3)\mathbf{i} + (3 \cos 5t - 6)\mathbf{j} + 3 \sin 4t \mathbf{k}$$

Blue Book

- pg. 44-45 Ex. 3 A Q 8 - 11, 16 - 19.
- pg. 48-49 Ex. 3 B Q 6 - 8.
- pg. 52-53 Ex. 3 C Q 5 - 8.
- pg. 86-87 Ex. 5 A Q 3(a), 4, 8.