Static Equilibrium



AP Physics Chapter 9

Static Equilibrium



8.4 Torque

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Rotational Dynamics – the causes of rotational motion

Caused by Torque, or a force applied at a distance from the pivot point

$$\tau = Fr$$

τ=torque (Nm)
F=force (N)
r=torque arm (m)



8.4 Torque

Force causes no rotation if it is applied at the pivot point



8.4 Torque

If the force is applied at an angle then only the perpendicular component matters

So $\tau = Fr\sin\theta$

θ must be the angleBetween the forceAnd the torque arm



Static Equilibrium



9.1 The Conditions of Equilibirum

Two Conditions 1. The sum of all forces is zero mathematically

examples Called Translational equilibrium



 $\Sigma F_x = 0$ $\Sigma F_y = 0$ $\Sigma F_z = 0$

2. The second condition for equilibrium – the sum of all torques equals zero $\Sigma \tau = 0$



Counterclockwise is considered positive torque Clockwise negative torque point meter stick Mass – negative torque 50 90 spring Spring scale – positive scale fulerum torque



Steps in Problem Solving

- Make a free body diagram
- Choose a coordinate system and resolve the forces into their components
- Write down the equilibrium equations for the forces
- Write down the torque equilibrium equation
- Solve

Example: A happy 50 kg dude stands 2 m from the left side of a 5 m long bridge. The bridge is supported at each end by pylons. What is the force on each pylon?

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Free Body Diagram



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Pivot Point



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Torque Equation Angles



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Solve

$$\Sigma \tau = W \frac{3}{5} l \sin \theta_1 - P_1 l \sin \theta_2$$

$$\Sigma \tau = (50)(9.8) \frac{3}{5} (5) - P_1 (5)$$

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Example: A 5 m long ladder leans against a wall at a point 4 m above a cement floor. The ladder is uniform and has a mass of 12 kg. Assuming the wall is frictionless (but the floor is not) determine the forces exerted on the ladder by the floor and by the wall.

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Free body diagram



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Axis?



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Force Equations

$$\Sigma F_x = f - N_w = 0$$

$$\Sigma F_y = N_c - mg = 0$$



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Torque Equations Pick a pivot the eliminates variable Calculate angles

$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \frac{y}{h}$$
$$\theta = \sin^{-1} \frac{4}{5} = 53^{\circ}$$

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Solve

$$\Sigma \tau = mg_{\frac{1}{2}}l\sin\theta_1 + fl\sin\theta_2 - N_c l\sin\theta_3$$

 $\Sigma \tau = (12)(9.8) \frac{1}{2}(5) \sin(37) + f(5) \sin(53) - N_c(5) \sin(37)$

$$\Sigma \tau = 176 + 4f - 3N_c$$

$$\Sigma F_x = f - N_w = 0 \qquad \Sigma F_x = f - N_w = 0$$

$$\Sigma F_y = N_c - mg = 0 \qquad \Sigma F_y = N_c - 118 = 0$$

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Solve

$$\Sigma \tau = 176 + 4f - 3N_c$$

$$\Sigma F_x = f - N_w = 0$$

$$\Sigma F_y = N_c - 118 = 0$$

$$N_c = 118$$

176+4f-3(118) = 0
 $f = 44.5N$

$$f = 44.5N$$
$$f = N_w$$
$$N_w = 44.5N$$