

Lab: AP Review Sheets
Chapter 5: The Laws of Motion

AP Physics
by Patrick Seo

Important Vocab:

- **Force:** “push or pull on an object”
 - Vector Quantities: *magnitude* and *direction*
 - Units = $\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}/\text{s}^2$ OR N [Newton]
- **Mass:** the amount of *inertia* a body has (how hard it is to change an object’s motion)
 - More mass => More Inertia => Harder to move / stop movement
 - Consistent (ie. doesn’t change with changes in gravity)
 - Units = kg (typically)
- **Weight:** how strongly earth’s gravity pulls on a mass
 - Measure of Force
 - Written as F_g or W
 - Units = $\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}/\text{s}^2$ OR N [Newton]
 - Weight of an object at the earth’s surface: $F_g = mg = W$
- **Speed:** “how fast an object’s moving”
 - Scalar Quantity
 - Rate at which an object covers a distance
- **Velocity:**
 - Vector Quantity
 - Rate and direction of an object’s movement
- **Acceleration:**
 - Vector Quantity
 - Rate at which the object’s velocity changes and at what direction

Newton’s Three Laws:

First Law of Motion - “The Law of Inertia”

- “Every body continues its state of rest or uniform speed in a straight line, unless it is compelled to change that state by a net force acting upon it.”
- **Inertia:** tendency to maintain one’s state of motion (whether moving or at rest)
- Describes that an object will remain at a constant motion unless acted upon by an external force

Second Law of Motion - $F_{\text{net}} = ma$

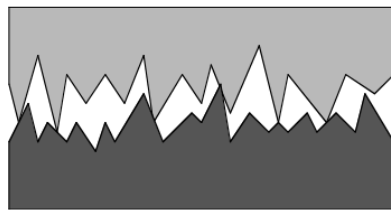
- The acceleration of an object is dependent upon two variables:
 - Net force acting upon the object
 - Mass of the object
- [Directly related to the net force; Inversely related to the mass]
- “Describes what happens if a net (resultant) force is applied to a mass”

Third Law of Motion - “Action-Reaction Law” / “Force Pairs”

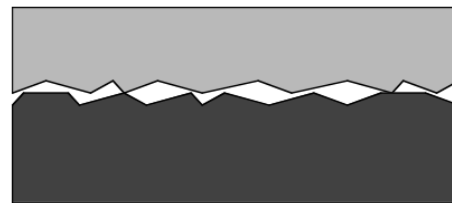
- “Whenever one object exerts a force on a second object, the second object exerts a force (equal in magnitude, opposite in direction), back on the first”
- “Every action has an equal and opposite reaction”
- Describes the relationship between two bodies that are interacting with each other

Friction:

- A force that opposes the motion of an object
- Different Types:
 - Rolling Friction: a force that opposes the rolling motion of an object over a surface
 - Fluid Friction (liquid or gas): molecules of fluids in constant motion -> collisions with each other -> force that opposes motion in between / within fluid
 - Sliding Friction: when a small force / torque is applied to an object, sliding friction prevents the body from sliding (body starts rolling)
 - Static: object acted upon by external force(s) with a component parallel to the surface (object at rest)
 - Kinetic: objects are in motion
- Magnitude is dependent on:
 - How hard two surfaces are being pushed together, indicated by normal force F_N
 - Nature of two surfaces in contact with each other, indicated by “coefficient of friction” μ
- μ [Coefficient of Friction]
 - Experimentally determined number
 - Describes how “sticky” two surfaces are when placed next to each other
 - Higher μ = More “sticky” = More friction force when two surfaces try to slide against each other



Close-up of high μ



Close-up of low μ

- Ratio between F_{friction} and F_{Normal} :

$$\mu = F_{\text{friction}} / F_{\text{Normal}}$$

FRQ's

[easy] How much force is required to accelerate a 60.0-kg object from rest to 4.00 m/s in 3 seconds?

[medium] At the instant a race began, a 50-kg sprinter exerted a force of 750 N on the starting block at a 20° angle with respect to the ground.

- a) What was the horizontal acceleration of the sprinter?
- b) If the force was exerted for 0.46 s, with what horizontal speed did the sprinter leave the starting block?

[hard] A young skier has lost control and is now traveling straight down a mountain. The skier is halfway down a run that is 100 m long (horizontally) with a slope of 30° and traveling at a rate of 10 m/s. If the skier is traveling at a rate of 30 m/s at the end of the run, what is the coefficient of kinetic friction between the skis and snow?

Solutions

[easy]

Solving for: a, F

$$a = (v_f - v_i) / t$$

$$\Rightarrow (4 \text{ m/s}^2 - 0 \text{ m/s}^2) / 3 \text{ s} = 4/3 \text{ m/s}^2$$

$$F = ma$$

$$\Rightarrow 60 \text{ kg} (4/3 \text{ m/s}^2) = 80 \text{ kg} \cdot \text{m/s}^2 = 80 \text{ N}$$

[medium]

a)

$$F_x = ma_x$$

$$\Rightarrow 750 \text{ N} (\cos(20^\circ)) = (50 \text{ kg})a_x$$

$$\Rightarrow a_x = 14.1 \text{ m/s}^2$$

b)

$$v_{f,x} = v_{i,x} + at$$

$$\Rightarrow v_{f,x} = 0 \text{ m/s} + (14.1 \text{ m/s}^2)(0.46 \text{ s}) = 6.49 \text{ m/s}$$

[hard]

We can use the equation for conservation of energy to solve this problem.

$$E = U_i + K_i + W_{\text{ext}} = U_f + K_f$$

Substituting expressions for each term, we get:

$$mgh_i + \frac{1}{2}mv_i^2 + \mu_k F_N d = \frac{1}{2}mv_f^2$$

Determine initial height and the normal force of the skier before solving for the coefficient of friction.

$$h_i = d \sin(30^\circ)$$

$$F_N = mg \cos(30^\circ)$$

Substitute these into the original equation:

$$mgd \sin(30^\circ) + \frac{1}{2}mv_i^2 + \mu_k mgd \cos(30^\circ) = \frac{1}{2}mv_f^2$$

Canceling out mass and rearranging for the coefficient of friction, we get:

$$\mu_k = -[gd \sin(30^\circ) - \frac{1}{2}v_i^2 + \frac{1}{2}v_f^2] / [gd \cos(30^\circ)]$$

Plug in our given values to solve:

$$\mu_k = -[(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(100 \text{ m})(\sin(30^\circ)) - \frac{1}{2}(10 \text{ m/s})^2 + \frac{1}{2}(30 \text{ m/s})^2] / [(9.8 \text{ m/s}^2)(100 \text{ m})(\cos(30^\circ))]$$

Finally:

$$\mu_k = -1.05$$