

# PHYSICS 534

EXERCISE-22 Equilibrium Review Part-2/ 2



STARK

Johannes Stark received the Nobel prize for physics in 1919 for his work on atomic spectral lines.

1. A uniform gate has a mass of 10 kg. The gate is 1.4 m wide with hinges 2 m apart. Using the vector diagrams below, calculate the forces ( $F_1$  and  $F_2$ ) exerted by each hinge. [61 N at  $55^\circ$  N of W] [61 N at  $55^\circ$  N of E]

**Take moments about this point**

Note that the component forces  $F_{V1}$  and  $F_{V2}$  each carry half the weight or  $F_{V1} = F_{V2} = 50$  N

To calculate  $F_{H1}$  (and  $F_{H2}$ ) we take moments about the bottom hinge:

Relative to the chosen fulcrum, note that the moment of  $F_{V1}$ ,  $F_{V2}$  and  $F_{H2}$  is zero.

$$\therefore \Sigma cwm = \Sigma ccwm$$

$$(100 \text{ N})(0.7 \text{ m}) = (F_{H1})(2 \text{ m})$$

$$\therefore F_{H1} = \frac{(100 \text{ N})(0.7 \text{ m})}{2 \text{ m}} = 35 \text{ N}$$

To find force  $F_1$  (and  $F_2$ ), with reference to the shaded triangle:

$$\therefore F_1^2 = F_{H1}^2 + F_{V1}^2$$

$$\therefore F_1^2 = (35 \text{ N})^2 + (50 \text{ N})^2$$

$$F_1 = 61 \text{ N}$$

To find the angle (A) we use the Tan function:

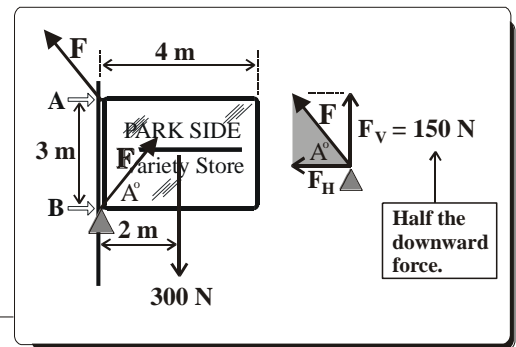
$$\text{Tan } A = \frac{50 \text{ N}}{35 \text{ N}} = 1.4285 \quad \therefore A = 55^\circ$$

Answer :  $F_1 = 61 \text{ N [W } 55^\circ \text{ N]}$  and  $F_2 = 61 \text{ [N E } 55^\circ \text{ N]}$

2. A



metal plates (A and B) at the top and bottom of the sign. The sign measures 4 m wide by 3 m high and has a mass of 30 kg with its center of gravity in the middle of the sign. Find the forces exerted by each metal plate used to support the sign. [250 N at 37° N of W] [250 N at 37° N of E]



**Taking moments about the bottom metal plate :**

$$\therefore \Sigma cwm = \Sigma ccwm$$

$$\therefore (300 \text{ N})(2 \text{ m}) = (F_H)(3 \text{ m})$$

$$F_H = \frac{(300 \text{ N})(2 \text{ m})}{3 \text{ m}} = 200 \text{ N}$$

$$\therefore F^2 = F_V^2 + F_H^2 \quad \text{or} \quad F^2 = (150 \text{ N})^2 + (200 \text{ N})^2 \quad \therefore F = 250 \text{ N}$$

**And, with reference to the shaded triangle:**

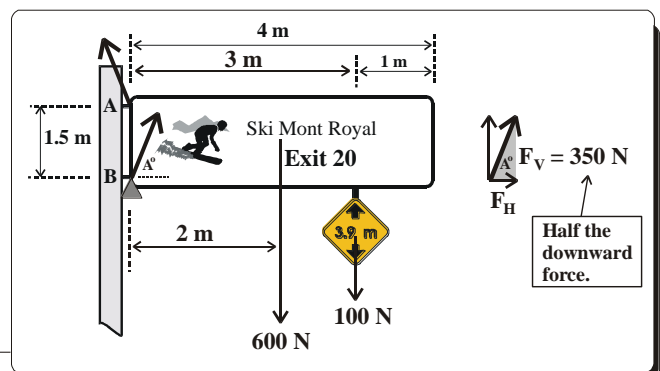
$$\tan A = \frac{150 \text{ N}}{200 \text{ N}} = 0.75 \quad \therefore A = 36.8^\circ = 37^\circ$$

**Answer :** 250 N [W 37° N] and 250 N [E 37° N]

3. A highway sign is attached to a pole by means of two braces (A and B) which are 1.5 m apart. The length of the sign is 4 m. It is made of uniform construction with a mass of 60 kg.

Attached to the sign, 1 m from the far end, is a smaller sign having a mass of 10 kg. Calculate the force exerted by each brace.

[1060 N 19° N of W] [1060 N 19° N of E]



**Taking moments about the bottom metal plate :**

$$\therefore \Sigma cwm = \Sigma ccwm$$

$$\therefore (600 \text{ N})(2 \text{ m}) + (100 \text{ N})(3 \text{ m}) = F_H (1.5 \text{ m})$$

$$F_H = \frac{(600 \text{ N})(2 \text{ m}) + (100 \text{ N})(3 \text{ m})}{1.5 \text{ m}} = 1000 \text{ N}$$

$$\therefore F^2 = F_V^2 + F_H^2 \quad \text{or} \quad F^2 = (350 \text{ N})^2 + (1000 \text{ N})^2 \quad \therefore F = 1060 \text{ N}$$

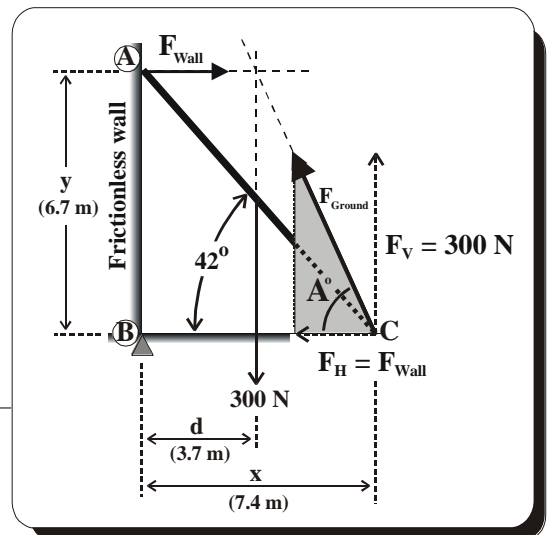
**And, with reference to the shaded triangle:**

$$\tan A = \frac{350 \text{ N}}{1000 \text{ N}} = 0.35 \quad \therefore A = 19.2^\circ = 19^\circ$$

**Answer :** 1060 N E 19° N] and 1060 N [W 19° N]

4. A 10 m long ladder is placed against a frictionless wall at an angle of  $42^\circ$  as illustrated in the diagram on the right. The ladder is uniform and has a mass of 30 kg. Find the force exerted by the wall ( $F_{\text{Wall}}$ ) and the force exerted by the ground ( $F_{\text{Ground}}$ ) which support the ladder.

[166 N East] [343 N  $61^\circ$  N of W]



Since the wall is frictionless, the only force it exerts is a normal force. That is, a force perpendicular to and out from the wall ( $F_{\text{Wall}}$ ).

Note that the ground force (whose angle is not  $42^\circ$ ) can be resolved into a horizontal component ( $F_H$ ) and a vertical component ( $F_V$ ). Moreover, the vertical component force ( $F_V$ ), being the only upward force (since the wall is frictionless), equals the total downward force. And, the horizontal component of the ground force ( $F_H$ ) equals the wall force ( $F_{\text{Wall}}$ ). Thus, with reference to the shaded triangle :

$$F_{\text{Ground}}^2 = F_H^2 + F_V^2$$

where  $F_H = F_{\text{Wall}}$  and  $F_V = F_w$  (weight of ladder)

$$\therefore F_{\text{Ground}}^2 = F_{\text{Wall}}^2 + F_w^2$$

Calculation of distances (with reference to  $\triangle ABC$ ) :

$$y = \text{height of wall} = (10 \text{ m})(\sin 42^\circ) = (10 \text{ m})(0.6691) = 6.69 \text{ m} = 6.7 \text{ m}$$

$$x = \text{floor distance} = (10 \text{ m})(\cos 42^\circ) = (10 \text{ m})(0.7431) = 7.43 \text{ m} = 7.4 \text{ m}$$

$$d = \text{distance of the center of mass of ladder from wall} = 7.4 \text{ m} / 2 = 3.7 \text{ m}$$

Taking moments at the base of the wall :

$$\Sigma \text{ cwm} = \Sigma \text{ ccwm}$$

$$\therefore (F_{\text{Wall}})(6.7 \text{ m}) + (F_w)(3.7 \text{ m}) = (F_V)(7.4 \text{ m})$$

(Note that the moment of  $F_H$ , relative to the chosen fulcrum, is zero)

But :  $F_w = F_V = 300 \text{ N}$  (weight of ladder)

$$\text{or } (F_{\text{Wall}})(6.7 \text{ m}) + (300 \text{ N})(3.7 \text{ m}) = (300 \text{ N})(7.4 \text{ m})$$

$$\text{or } (F_{\text{Wall}})(6.7 \text{ m}) = (300 \text{ N})(7.4 \text{ m}) - (300 \text{ N})(3.7 \text{ m})$$

$$\text{or } F_{\text{Wall}} = \frac{(300 \text{ N})(7.4 \text{ m}) - (300 \text{ N})(3.7 \text{ m})}{6.7 \text{ m}} = 165.7 \text{ N} = 166 \text{ N}$$

With reference to the shaded triangle :

$$F_{\text{Ground}}^2 = F_H^2 + F_V^2$$

But  $F_H = F_{\text{Wall}} = 166 \text{ N}$  and  $F_V = F_w = 300 \text{ N}$

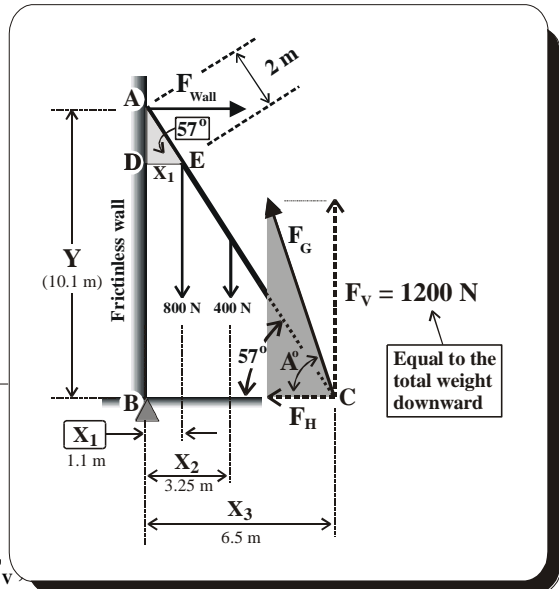
$$\therefore F_{\text{Ground}}^2 = (166 \text{ N})^2 + (300 \text{ N})^2 \quad \therefore F_{\text{Ground}} = 342.8 \text{ N} = 343 \text{ N}$$

$$\tan A = \frac{300 \text{ N}}{166 \text{ N}} = 1.8072 \quad \therefore A = 61^\circ$$

Answer:  $F_{\text{Wall}} = 166 \text{ N East}$  and  $F_{\text{Ground}} = 343 \text{ N at } 61^\circ \text{ N of W}$

5. A 12 m long ladder leans against a frictionless wall at an angle of  $57^\circ$  (see the diagram). The ladder is uniform with a mass 40 kg. Standing on the ladder, 2 m away from the top of the ladder, is an 80 kg man. Determine the forces exerted by the wall ( $F_{\text{Wall}}$ ) and the ground ( $F_G$ ) supporting the ladder in equilibrium.

[556 N East] [1323 N  $65^\circ$  N of W]



Since the wall is frictionless, the only force it exerts is a normal force. That is, a force perpendicular to and out from the wall ( $F_{\text{Wall}}$ ).

We resolve the ground force (whose angle is not  $57^\circ$ ) into a horizontal and a vertical component ( $F_H$  and  $F_V$ ).

Calculation of the distances:  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$  and  $Y$ :

$$\text{From } \triangle ADE, X_1 = (2 \text{ m})(\cos 57^\circ) = (2 \text{ m})(0.5446) = 1.08 \text{ m} = 1.1 \text{ m}$$

$$\text{From } \triangle ABC, X_3 = (12 \text{ m})(\cos 57^\circ) = (12 \text{ m})(0.5446) = 6.53 \text{ m} = 6.5 \text{ m}$$

$$Y = (12 \text{ m})(\sin 57^\circ) = (12 \text{ m})(0.8386) = 10.06 \text{ m} = 10.1 \text{ m}$$

With reference to the bottom (shaded) triangle:

$$F_G^2 = F_H^2 + F_V^2$$

where  $F_V = 1200 \text{ N}$  (equal to the total downward force)

$$F_H = F_{\text{Wall}}$$

To find the wall force,  $F_{\text{Wall}}$ , we take moments at the base of the wall.

$$\sum \text{cwm} = \sum \text{ccwm}$$

$$\therefore (F_{\text{Wall}})(10.1 \text{ m}) + (800 \text{ N})(1.1 \text{ m}) + (400 \text{ N})(3.25 \text{ m}) = (1200 \text{ N})(6.5 \text{ m})$$

$$\text{or } F_{\text{Wall}} = \frac{(1200 \text{ N})(6.5 \text{ m}) - (800 \text{ N})(1.1 \text{ m}) - (400 \text{ N})(3.25 \text{ m})}{10.1 \text{ m}} = 556.4 \text{ N} = 556 \text{ N}$$

(Note that the moment of  $F_H$ , relative to the chosen fulcrum, is zero)

$$\text{Since } F_G^2 = F_{\text{Wall}}^2 + F_V^2$$

$$F_G^2 = (556 \text{ N})^2 + (1200 \text{ N})^2$$

$$\therefore F_G = 1322.5 \text{ N} = 1323 \text{ N}$$

$$\tan A = \frac{1200 \text{ N}}{556 \text{ N}} = 2.1582 \quad \therefore A = 65.1^\circ = 65^\circ$$

Answer :  $F_{\text{Wall}} = 556 \text{ N East}$  and  $F_G = 1223 \text{ N at } 65^\circ \text{ N of W}$

