Mechanics Year 2 exam questions

- There are many more Forces and Friction questions in Chapter 7.

Arancha Ruiz

Ch. 5: Forces and Friction

November 2021 question 2

2.

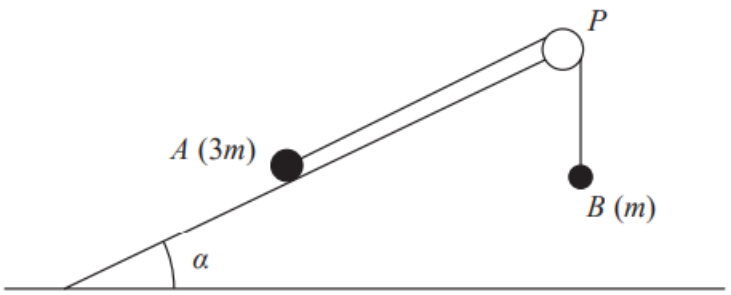


Figure 1

A small stone A of mass $3m$ is attached to one end of a string.

A small stone B of mass m is attached to the other end of the string.

Initially A is held at rest on a fixed rough plane.

The plane is inclined to the horizontal at an angle α, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$

The string passes over a pulley P that is fixed at the top of the plane.

The part of the string from A to P is parallel to a line of greatest slope of the plane.

Stone B hangs freely below P, as shown in Figure 1.

The coefficient of friction between A and the plane is $\frac{1}{6}$

Stone A is released from rest and begins to move down the plane.

The stones are modelled as particles.

The pulley is modelled as being small and smooth.

The string is modelled as being light and inextensible.

Using the model for the motion of the system before B reaches the pulley,

(a) write down an equation of motion for A

(2)

Continues in next page

(b) show that the acceleration of A is $\frac{1}{10}g$

(7)

(c) sketch a velocity-time graph for the motion of B, from the instant when A is released from rest to the instant just before B reaches the pulley, explaining your answer.

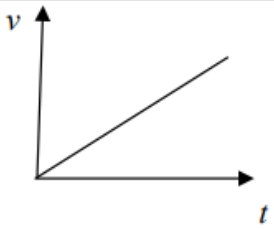
(2)

In reality, the string is not light.

(d) State how this would affect the working in part (b).

(1)

ANSWER

Question	Scheme	Marks	AOs
	Mark parts (a) and (b) together		
2(a)	Equation of motion for A	M1	3.3
	$3mg\sin\alpha - F - T = 3ma$	A1	1.1b
		(2)	
2(b)	Resolve perpendicular to the plane	M1	3.4
	$R = 3mg\cos\alpha$	A1	1.1b
	$F = \frac{1}{6}R$	B1	1.2
	Equation of motion for B **OR** for whole system	M1	3.3
	$T - mg = ma$ **OR** $3mg\sin\alpha - F - mg = 3ma + ma$	A1	1.1b
	Complete method to solve for a	DM1	3.1b
	$a = \frac{1}{10}g$ *	A1*	2.2a
		(7)	
2(c)		B1	1.1b
	e.g. acceleration (of B) is constant; dependent on first B1	DB1	2.4
		(2)	
2(d)	e.g. the tensions in the two equations of motion would be different. Tension on A would be different to tension on B	B1	3.5a
		(1)	
			(12 marks)

Video solution:

https://youtu.be/_LKDrLRhhnE

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June 2018 Question 7

7.

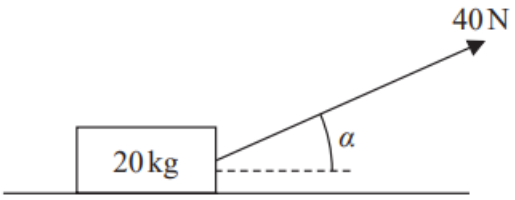

Figure 1

A wooden crate of mass 20 kg is pulled in a straight line along a rough horizontal floor using a handle attached to the crate.

The handle is inclined at an angle α to the floor, as shown in Figure 1, where $\tan\alpha = \frac{3}{4}$

The tension in the handle is 40 N.
The coefficient of friction between the crate and the floor is 0.14
The crate is modelled as a particle and the handle is modelled as a light rod.

Using the model,

(a) find the acceleration of the crate.

(6)

The crate is now pushed along the same floor using the handle. The handle is again inclined at the same angle α to the floor, and the thrust in the handle is 40 N as shown in Figure 2 below.

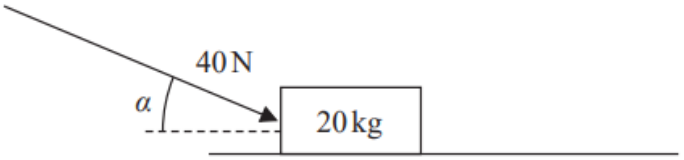

Figure 2

(b) Explain briefly why the acceleration of the crate would now be less than the acceleration of the crate found in part (a).

(2)

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ANSWER

Question	Scheme	Marks	AOs
7(a)	Resolve vertically	M1	3.1b
	$R+40\sin\alpha=20g$	A1	1.1b
	Resolve horizontally	M1	3.1b
	$40\cos\alpha-F=20a$	A1	1.1b
	$F=0.14R$	B1	1.2
	$a=0.396$ or 0.40 (m s^{-2})	A1	2.2a
		(6)	
(b)	Pushing will increase R which will increase available F	B1	2.4
	Increasing F will decrease a * GIVEN ANSWER	B1*	2.4
		(2)	
			(8 marks)